北条　司

ぼくは、よく年より若く見られることがある。それが、いやでたまらない。
どうにか、年相応に見られたい。
ヒゲでもはやせば、老けて見られるかもしれないが、あいにく、ぼくはヒゲがまばらで、うすーい!!
だから、サングラスをかけ、年齢が判別できないようにしているわけだが、やっぱり見破られてしまう。
もう、一児の父なのにねえ……。

LOVE
JC

JUMP COMICS

CAT'S EYE

キャッツ♥アイ

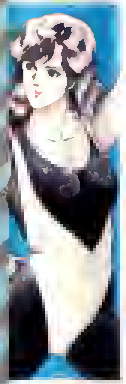
第15巻

♥長い一日…の巻

Tsukasa Hōjō

北条 司

キャッツ♡アイ 15



北条 司

1465

集英社

JC851465

ISBN4-08-851465-3

C0279 ¥360E 雑誌43019 55

ジャンプ・コミックス

定価360円

東京・一ツ橋 集英社

既刊好評発売中!!

天地を喰らう ①～⑯ 本宮ひろ志
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銀牙 流れ星銀 ①～⑰ 高橋よしひろ
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やるっきゃ騎士 ①～① みやすのんき
魂HERO ①～① 虎多野やすし
闘将"拉麺男" ①～① ゆでたまご
キン肉マン ①～⑪ ゆでたまご
ストップ!!ひばりくん ①～⑪ 秋本治
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CAT'Nえぶりでい ①～③ ひすわしヒロシ
ジャンプ放送局VTR ①～⑦ ヒノグ錠

〈ジャンプ・コミックスデラックス〉

男一匹ガキ大将 ❶ 全12巻 本宮ひろ志
包丁人味平 牛次郎・ヒノグ錠
空(くうかい) 早坂暁・中島徳博
ヤマトの火 星野之宣
子供の王国 諸星大二郎
校舎うらのイレブン ちはあきお

★巻末に応募券が付いているのもあるのでミノネ!!

JUMP COMICS

キャッツ♥アイ

CAT'S EYE

第15巻 ♥熱い一日…の巻

北条 司

キャッツ♥アイ 15

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キャッツ♥アイ

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第15巻♥長い一日…の巻

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♥長い一日…の巻

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A FABULOUS FIB
素敵なウソなら…の巻

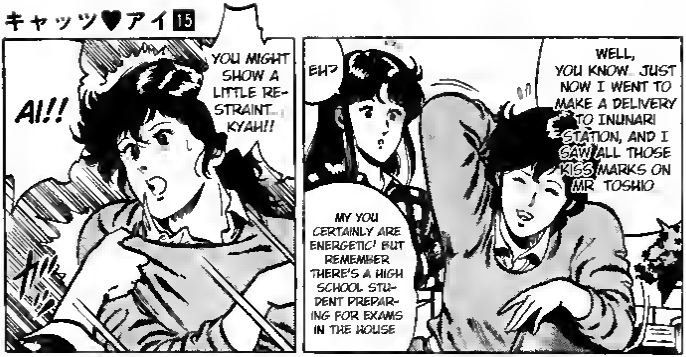
THE CARRY-OUT BRIGADE HAS ARRIVED!!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING !!
OHHH♡ WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU
YOU CERTAINLY ARE IN HIGH SPIRITS DESPITE THE COLD.
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M STILL YOUNG. CERTAINLY YOUNGER THAN GEEZERS HUDDLED AROUND A HEATER.
THAT'S UNKIND, AI.
BUT WE'RE NOT AS BAD AS THAT GUY

THAT GUY?
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT THIS.
MISSSTER TOSHIO, YOU LOOK SLOPPY TAKE IT OFF AT ONCE.
SURELY HE CAN'T BE SEEN BY HIS LOVER LIKE THAT !?
AH! THAT TAKES THE CAKE! I DON'T CARE HOW COLD IT IS, TO WEAR A SCARF INSIDE!
TOSHIO! IT'S AN ORDER FROM THE PRINCESS. DO AS SHE SAYS!!
H-HEY! HEY!
IT'S RUDE!
HEY! CUT THAT OUT! STOP IT!!

STOP !!
K-...
KISS MARKS?
KISS MARKS!!
AND SO MANY OF THEM!!
AHHH
WH-WHAT'S WITH THOSE !?
WH-WHO DID YOU DO THAT WITH? URRRR!!
HA HA... WELL, Y'SEE.
OF COURSE IT WAS HITOMI
IT'S NOTHING TO BE SURPRISED ABOUT THEY STARTED SHARING A ROOM.

EH ...!?
COHABITATION!
AI!!
EH?
YOU SAID, "EH?"
I KNEW THEY'D BE INSUFFERABLE IF I TOLD THEM...
IS IT A SECRET?
EXACTLY WHADDAYA MEAN BY COHABITATION, BOSS?
AND YOU KEPT IT A SECRET FROM US.
I'LL BET THOSE KISS MARKS AREN'T THE WHOLE STORY.
THIS IS SERIOUS
YOU MUSTA DONE BETTER STUFF THAN THAT!
I'LL BE GOING NOW!
D-DUMBASS. YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!

AND THESE KISS MARKS AREN'T FROM HITOMI!!
NO! WE'RE NOT COHABITING!! WE'RE JUST ROOMMATES!!
WHAT IS IT? AI...
I KNOW AAALLL ABOUT IT!
DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT.
UFUFU. I'M THINKING YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING.
YOU'VE BEEN OGLING ME ALL THIS TIME...
EH?
WHY?


AI!!
YOU MIGHT SHOW A LITTLE RESTRAINT... KYAH!!
EH?
WELL, YOU KNOW JUST NOW I WENT TO MAKE A DELIVERY TO INUNARI STATION, AND I SAW ALL THOSE KISS MARKS ON MR TOSHIO
MY YOU CERTAINLY ARE ENERGETIC! BUT REMEMBER THERE'S A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PREPARING FOR EXAMS IN THE HOUSE

!?
EH?
EH !?
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW? WHAT DID YOU SAY ABOUT TOSHIO?

SWEAT
...HUH? ...IT WASN'T ...YOU?
LOOKS LIKE I MIXED THINGS UP AGAIN
WHO HAS TOSHIO BEEN KISSING!?
WHAT KISS MARKS !?

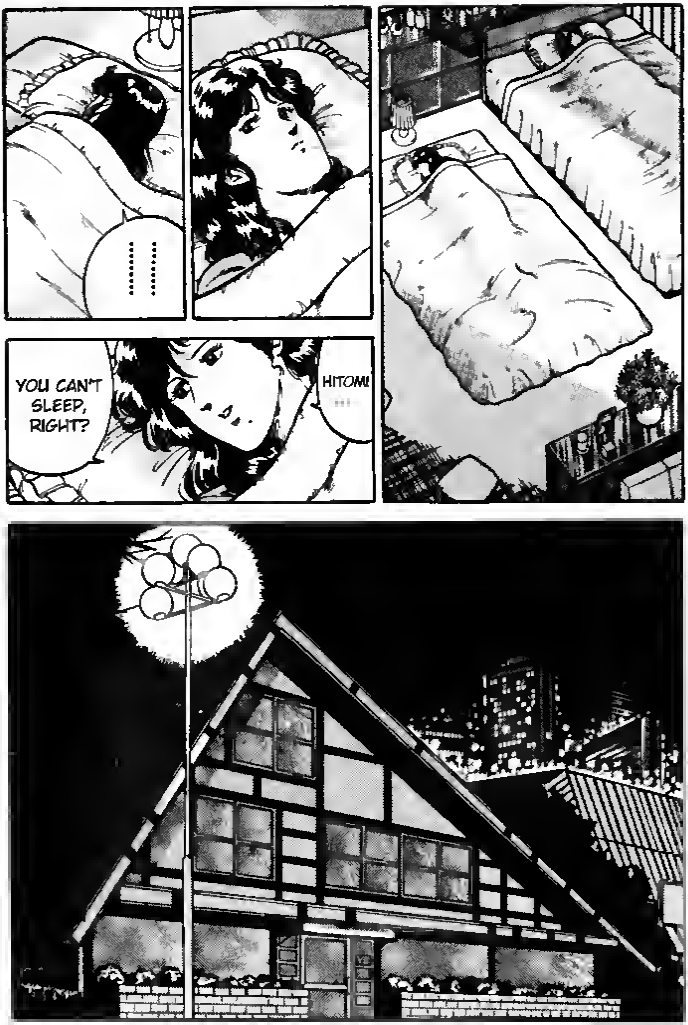
THERE WAS A GIRL IN FRONT OF ME WITH THICK MAKEUP AND EVERY TIME THE TRAIN SHOOK IT GOT ON ME!!
I GOT THESE KISSES IN A JAM-PACKED TRAIN!!
O-OKAY! OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT!!
BOSS SS
YOU EXPECT US TO BE-LIEVE YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANY-THING WITH O' HITOMI?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU BEFORE YOU'LL BELIEVE ME?
WHAT A PAIN YOU GUYS ARE.
THAT'S RIGHT!! AT NEW YEAR WE SWORE WE'D KEEP OUR BODIES PURE UNTIL MARRIAGE!!
ANYWAY, YOU CAN'T FORGET OUR VOW OF VIRGINITY WE THREE SWORE!!
A RATHER DISGUSTING-LOOKING PAIR.
WHAT'S WITH THE GROUS-ING!?
IT'S LIKE THE TWO OF THEM ARE CONSPIR-ING TO GET IN MY WAY!
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS AND "PURE BODIES"! THEY FORCED ME INTO THAT PACT....
I KNOW THAT !!

YEAH. UNTIL THEN WE'RE GONNA GET IN HIS WAY!!
SHEESH WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY KIND OF GIRLFRIENDS
DOES HE THINK WE'RE GONNA LET HIM HAVE ALL THE FUN!?
COFFEE-HOUSU
CAT'S-EYE
NOTH-ING!!
HUH? YOU'RE NOT COMING IN?
CLAT-TER
SEE YOU, TOSH!
COFFEE-HOUSU
CAT'S-EYE
COFFEE HOUSU
CAT'S-EYE
TOSHIO !!
HYE HHH
WAIT, HITOMI
AS EX-PECT-ED!!

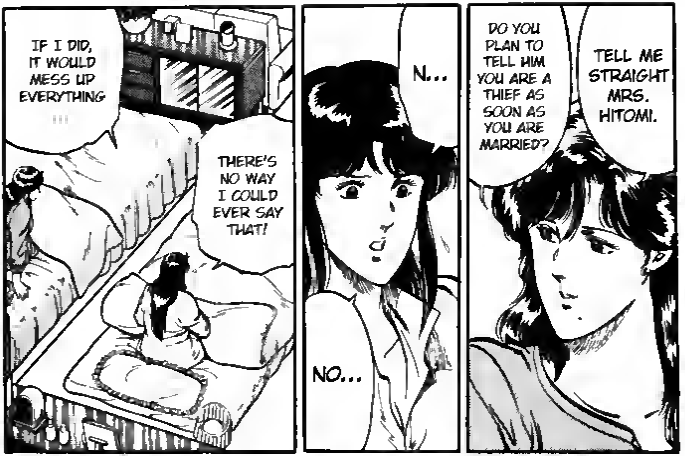
WHO HAVE YOU BEEN KISSING !?
SPILL IT RIGHT NOW, TOSHI!!
I THINK WE SHOULD LET HIM EXPLAIN TO HITOMI BY HIMSELF!
THAT'S WHAT HE GETS FOR STARTIN' TA COHABIT WITH HER!!
LOOK OUT, HITOMI! CALM DOWN!!
I TOLD YOU THERE WAS THIS GIRL IN FRONT OF ME ON THE TRAIN...
THAT'S THE LAMEST STORY I EVER HEARD!!
HEE!
THE FIGHTS ARE GETTING PROGRESSIVELY WORSE
LISTEN HERE! IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT IT'S ONLY COMMON COURTESY TO HAVE ASKED YOUR ADDRESS SO SHE COULD APOLOGIZE!!
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY KNOW THAT?
WHAT KIND OF IDIOT WOULD BELIEVE A TALE LIKE THAT!?
IT'S TRUE! WHENEVER THE TRAIN SWAYED, THE GIRL IN FRONT OF ME...
THIS IS MESSED UP...
AWWW
FINE! WHO WAS THIS GIRL? WHERE IS SHE FROM?

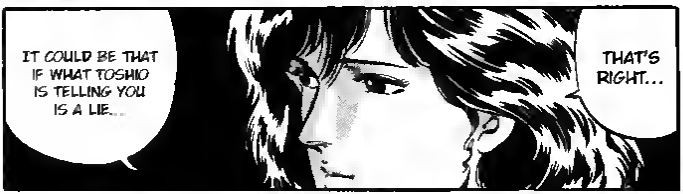
FINE! UNTIL YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH I DON'T WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU.
AND I'LL HAVE YOU STAY OUT OF MY ROOM!!
JEEZ, HITOMI HE'S APOLOGIZED ALREADY CAN'T YOU LET IT GO?
S-SURE, SIS THAT'S RIGHT
BUT YOUR ROOM AND MY ROOM...ARE... THE SAME...
STAY OUT OF YOUR ROOM...
OKAY, THEN I'LL IMPOSE ON RU! AND STAY IN HER ROOM!!
HITOMI !!
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE SHARING A ROOM...
BOTH HERE AND AT THE STATION... WHY DOES THIS STUFF ALWAYS HAPPEN TO ME?

HITOMI!!!
IT'S TRUUUUEEE I GOT THOSE ON THE TRAIN!!
.....
HITO-MI!!!
!!
HUMPH
TOS HIO
EH?


.....
YOU CAN'T SLEEP, RIGHT?
HITOMI
...

SURELY TOSHIO MUST BE LONELY IN THAT HUGE ROOM BY HIMSELF?
NO WAY!!
NOT WITH THAT LIAR!
I CAN'T STAND TO BE IN A ROOM WITH ANYONE WHO'D TELL SUCH A SIMPLE-MINDED LIE.
IF HE'D TALK TO ME HONESTLY I WOULDN'T BE SO ANGRY.
AT THIS RATE I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT MARRIED LIFE WILL BE LIKE.
I WANT US TO BE A COUPLE THAT NEVER LIES TO EACH OTHER.
TH-THAT'S DIFFER-ENT!!
THEN ONCE YOU'RE MARRIED
YOU PLAN POP RIGHT OUT WITH "HEY, I'M THE CAT"?
OH REALLY?
THEY'RE THE SAME!!


IF I DID, IT WOULD MESS UP EVERYTHING
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD EVER SAY THAT!
N...
NO...
DO YOU PLAN TO TELL HIM YOU ARE A THIEF AS SOON AS YOU ARE MARRIED?
TELL ME STRAIGHT MRS. HITOMI.


IT COULD BE THAT IF WHAT TOSHIO IS TELLING YOU IS A LIE...
THAT'S RIGHT...

BUT EVEN IF IT IS A LIE, AS LONG AS IT ISN'T AN AFFAIR...
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE COULD NEVER FORGIVE HIM.
DON'T HOLD BACK, ME!
...WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
IF HE WERE TO SAY, "I'M SORRY HITOMI, I HAD AN AFFAIR"
I DON'T... THINK I WOULD... FORGIVE HIM.

THERE ARE TIMES A LIE SMOOTHS THINGS OVER.
SOMETIMES TELLING THE TRUTH DOES NOT LEAD TO HAPPINESS.
.....
SOMETIMES BEING FOOLED DOES SO AS WELL.
AND...
CLICK
.....

CREAK
ZZZ...
EH...

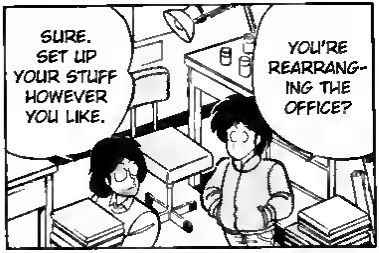
TOSHIO ...
THE GIRL IN FRONT OF ME...
IT'S TRUE
MUNYAA
WHEN THE TRAIN SHOOK...
IT'S A MISUN-DER-STAND-ING...
CLACKETY CLACKETY-CLACK...
I KNOW, TOSHIO.

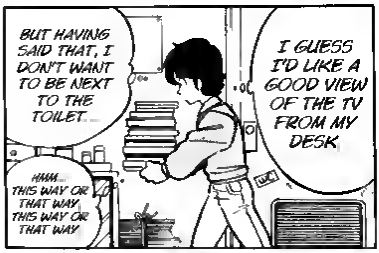
WHEN THE TRAIN SHOOK...
PLEASE BELIEVE ME...
I LEFT A LITTLE MARK...
AH...

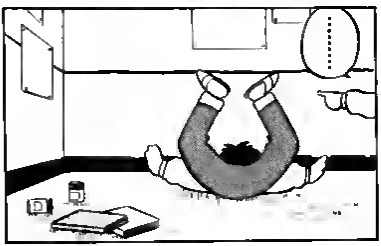
IT'S TRUE! YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME!!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE TOSH!!
YOU THINK THAT COULD HAPPEN TWICE!?
DUMB ASS !!
YOU AIN'T GETTIN' AWAY NOW!!
TOSH !!
HAH! AH!
HORRIBLE
HITOMI!! HIDE ME, PLEASE!!
WHAT IS IT, TOSHIO?
LATER

OH. WELL, THAT'S ...
THIS !!
THIS KISS MARK!!
AIEE !!
WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT!?
HEE!
YA THINK YOU COULD GET A HICKEY LIKE THAT JUST FROM THE TRAIN ROCKIN'? THAT AIN'T NO LIPSTICK!!
THIS PIN-HEAD SAYS THE TRAIN SHOOK AGAIN!!
IT'S TRUUU LIEE
IT IT'S TRUE HITOMI. THE TRAIN WAS SHAKING AND THE GIRL IN FRONT OF ME
SHEE SH
HITOMI, THIS GUY IS HAVING AN AFFAIR FOR SURE !!
HMMM. SO THAT'S THE REASON. THE GIRL IN FRONT OF YOU?

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE ONE BY ASSISTANT E




BUT HAVING SAID THAT, I DON'T WANT TO BE NEXT TO THE TOILET...
I GUESS I'D LIKE A GOOD VIEW OF THE TV FROM MY DESK.
HMM... THIS WAY OR THAT WAY. THIS WAY OR THAT WAY.



YOU SAY HE'S SEXY!?

THE OATH IS BROKEN !!
THE SACRED VOW OF VIRGINITY THAT WE THREE SWORE HAS VANISHED LIKE A MIST!!
NOW THAT TOSHIO'S TREACHEROUS COHABITATION HAS COME TO LIGHT...
WE'RE JUST ROOM-MATES ROOM-MATES!!
THESE GUYS ARE SICK!
SHEE SH...
THE PUNISHMENT FER BREAKIN' A MAN'S SACRED OATH IS HEAVY!!!
THAT'S RIGHT! THAT'S RIGHT!
IT'S HIS JUST DESERTS
OH... THE TRAITOR SAID SOME-THING
WILL YOU GUYS CUT IT OUT!? JUST LET IT GO
.....

J-JEAL-OUSY!!
JE-GULP!!
SUCH JEALOUSY FROM MEN, IT'S DIS-GRACEFUL!!

ALL I HEAR IS A COUPLE OF GUYS WHO ARE JEALOUS BECAUSE YOU AREN'T POPULAR WITH GIRLS!!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY...

RIGHT!! THIS IS A PROMISE BETWEEN MEN THAT NO FEMALE CAN UNDERSTAND
THIS IS NOTHING SO VULGAR AS JEAL-OUSY!!

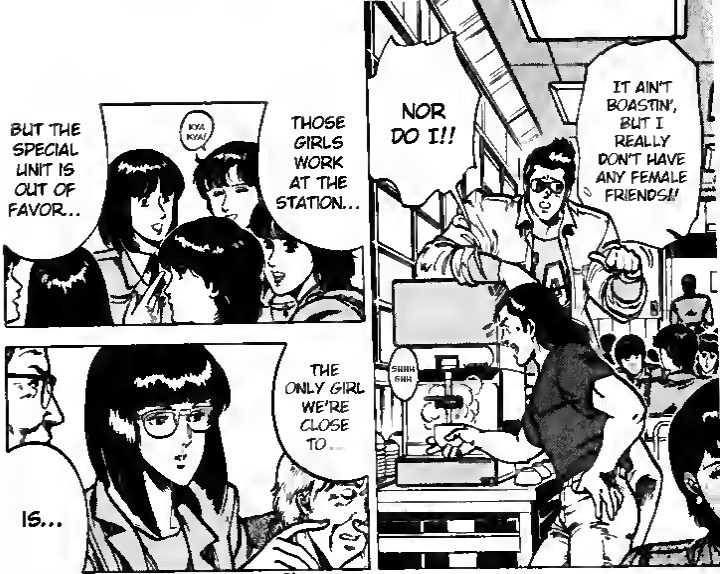
RIGHT, RIGHT... WHEN WE WANT TO, WE CAN BE PLENTY POP-ULAR WITH THE GIRLS!!
Y-YOU GUYS SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU THINK ALL I EVER DO IS CHASE AFTER AL... RIGHT, HIRAMBO?
IT AIN'T LIKE RUI'S THE ONLY GIRL OUT THERE!
RIGHT!

.....

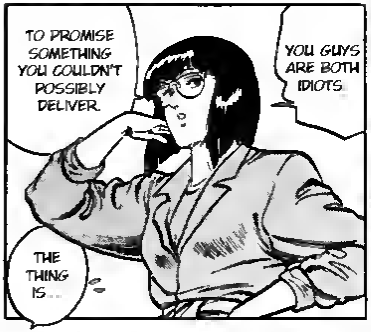
FU FU FU... WHAT ARE YA SAYIN'
FU...

IF YOU WAS T'ASK US, I'D SAY BOSS IS THE ONE WE SHOULD BE FEELIN' SORRY FOR
THAT'S RIGHT. BECAUSE HE'S BOUND TO JUST HITOMI!!
WE'RE STILL YOUNG.
RIGHT NOW WE GOT LOTS O' GIRLS TO CHOOSE FROM. WE CAN GET HITCHED WITH ANY OF 'EM
HEHH? IS THAT RIGHT!
I HAD NO IDEA. SO WE ARE JUST THROWAWAY GIRLS?
IF YOU'VE GOT SOME-ONE ELSE, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT US AT ALL.
THAT'S RIGHT BRING THEM AROUND SOME TIME!
D-DON'T SAY THAT, AI. YOU AND YOUR SISTER ARE SPECIAL!!
EH...OH... YOU'RE BACK!?
HMP H...
A... UM...
OH NO. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE US ANY SPECIAL CONSIDER-ATION.

LOOK WHAT YOU GET FOR PUTTING ON AIRS...
IDIOTS
AH... MISS RUI!
WE'LL LOOK FOR-WARD TO IT.
AI!?
T-TOMORROW WE'LL SHOW YOU PROOF!!
WH-WHAT'S PUTTING ON AIRS! WE REALLY ARE POPULAR!!
IT MAY HAVE BEEN SPUR OF THE MOMENT... BUT IT WAS A CRAZY THING TO SAY...
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO AFTER SAYIN' THAT...

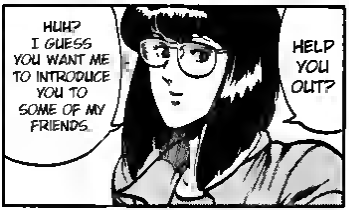

IT AIN'T BOASTIN', BUT I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY FEMALE FRIENDS!!
NOR DO I!!
SHIIN
SHIIN
THOSE GIRLS WORK AT THE STATION...
KYA KYA!
BUT THE SPECIAL UNIT IS OUT OF FAVOR..
THE ONLY GIRL WE'RE CLOSE TO...
IS...

A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT HAIRSTYLE!


TO PROMISE SOMETHING YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY DELIVER.
YOU GUYS ARE BOTH IDIOTS.
THE THING IS...

I'M SORRY, BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE. ALL MY FRIENDS ARE MARRIED!
EH!?

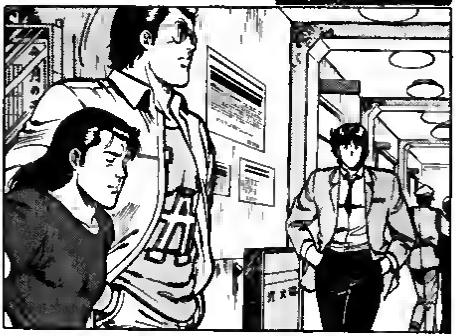
BUT IF YOU COULD HELP US OUT...
IT'S A BIT HARD TO ASK,


HUH? I GUESS YOU WANT ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME OF MY FRIENDS.
HELP YOU OUT?

SO YOU'RE THE ONLY OLD MAID?
HUH SO THEY'RE ALL...

WE WANT YOU TO GIVE US A KISS MARK!!
ACTUALLY ...
ズイッ
I KNOW! SORRY! JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!!
LISTEN HERE, BUD!! I LIVE FOR MY WORK...
EH ...!?
SLIDE!
THAT'S RIGHT THEN WE CAN SAY OUR GIRLFRIENDS DID IT
AIN'T NO WAY WE CAN TAKE A GIRLFRIEND WITH US, SO JES' GIVE US A KISS MARK ON THE FACE
THERE'S NO OTHER GIRL WE CAN ASK!
PLEASE, ASATANI!

ザワッ



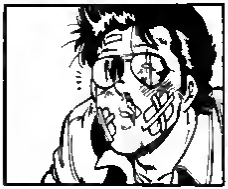
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU...
WH...

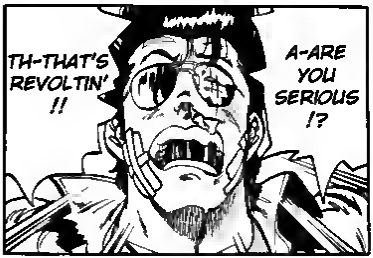
IT'S A MARK ALRIGHT. A SLAP MARK.
NOTHING
N...

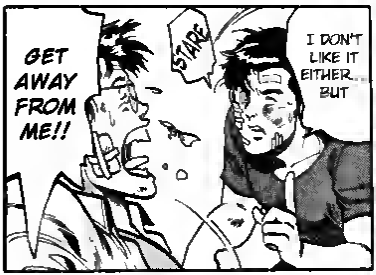
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!! IT WAS YOU THAT TOLD HER JUST TO PUT UP WITH IT AND GOT US SLAPPED!!
IT WAS A MISTAKE T'ASK ASATANI IN THE FIRST PLACE!!
THE KITTEN WILL THINK IT'S A TEAT AND START SUCKING!!
NO PROBLEM. I'LL JUST DAB A LITTLE MILK HERE...
PIEEE PIEEE
BUT THIS TIME WE'LL USE A NON-HUMAN THAT DOESN'T HAVE ANY FEELINGS!!
GOOD, NOW LET IT GO!
I GET IT.
JES' HOW WELL CAN IT GO WITH THIS HEHE KITTEN...
GYAAHH!! IT SCRATCHED ME!!
WH-WHAT'S WITH THIS THING!?
HEE!?
HSS!

クリーズ
IT'S COMING FROM MR. TAKEUCHI'S ROOM!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
DASH DASH
KYAAH!
GTFF
A CAT?
HUH?
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING!?
OH, HI CHIEF... AND MISS KEIKO...
UHH... I GUESS WE MADE A HACKET... HEH HEH HEH.
HEH...
HEHEH HEHEH HEHE...

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO...
GIVEN THIS...




TH-THAT'S REVOLTIN' !!
A-ARE YOU SERIOUS !?


GET AWAY FROM ME!!
STARE
I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER BUT

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GIVE EACH OTHER A KISS MARK ...

THAT MEANS TOMORROW WE WILL BE EMBARRASSED AT "CAT'S EYE"
HUMPH
IF YOU WON'T DO IT, YOU WON'T DO IT...
.....
.....
AND YOU'LL BE EMBARRASSED IN FRONT OF RUI...
WE NEED TO PREPARE OURSELVES I'LL BE EMBARRASSED IN FRONT OF AI
HEE!!
HEE EEE !!
THE SUPER SAYS TO HURRY UP WITH YOUR BATH...
HEY, TAKE U-CHI!!

D-DID YOU HEAR A VOICE JES' NOW?
HEGH
I DON'T THINK SO...
BUT WE REALLY DIDN'T GET KISS MARKS
SHIV-ER
SH...
SUCK HARDER!!
YOU TOO!!
CLATTER
YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT I GUESS, BUT I SAW WITH MY OWN TWO EYES THOSE TWO ARE H...H...H...
IT... IT'S TRUE!!
HO-
THOSE GUYS ARE DEFINITELY WEIRDOS!!

HEY THERE
HI
SHOCK!
HYEEE !!
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
CLATTER
HEH HEH HEH. WE GOT SOMETHIN' GOOD TA SHOW YA!!
I GOT IT FROM A GIRLFRIEND. WHAT A PAIN, EH?
LOOK! LOOK!
HERE RIGHT HERE
CHECK IT OUT! A KISS MARK!!
SEE? RIGHT HERE!
NOW I GET IT, BUT
THEY'RE SO BEAT UP
THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL
PATHETIC. I GUESS WE TEASED THEM TOO MUCH YESTERDAY
SEE! WE REALLY GOT GIRLFRIEND!
HEH HEH HEH!
I'M NOT SURE WHICH IS THE KISS MARK.
IT REALLY IS A PAIN!
WELL, WELL!
OH, IT'S NOTHIN'
YOU GUYS SURE ARE POPULAR! I'M REAL JEALOUS!
IT'S TRUE IT'S ONLY TO BE EXPECTED!!
IT'S... IT'S AMAZING HOW MUCH THEY PRESSURED YOU

HEY! THE LADY KILLER PAIR FROM THE SPECIAL UNIT
AHA... HA HA HA HA HA HA
NO WAY...
IT'S TOUGH!
COFFEE
LADY KILLERS !!
I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR...
AHA AHA
NOT AT ALL... HA HA!
HAA-UMM...
AIN'T NO GOOD...
UH-HUH
CLATTER
AH...
WELCOME, MISS ASATANI
WHAT'S WITH THOSE TWO?
JUST NOW? THEY WERE SUUUCH LADY-KILLERS
IN THE END, PETTY TRICKS
CAN'T CHANGE THE FACT THEY HAVE NO SEX APPEAL. ALL THAT'S LEFT IS EMPTINESS HUH

WE WERE RESEARCHING WHY ONLY TOSHIO GETS ALL THE GIRLS!!
IF WE COULD ONLY FIGURE THAT OUT
LEAVE US ALONE !!
STOP IT! EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED!!
YOU GUYS SEEM PRETTY LOW FOR GUYS WHO JUST GOT KISS MARKS FROM THEIR LOVERS
SHALL I TELL YOU WHY?
OH...
YOU GUYS AREN'T MANLY!!
EH!?
HUH?
IS THERE A SINGLE THING THAT EITHER OF YOU THROW YOUR HEART INTO?
IDIOT STOP THINKING THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO BE MANLY!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? CHECK OUT THE MUSCLES ON THIS BODY!!

DO YOU HAVE TO ASK!? HE HAS CAT'S EYE!!
BUT WE'RE BOTH PART OF THE SPECIAL UNIT...
SUCH A THING DOESN'T EXIST FOR EITHER OF YOU!! UNDERSTAND!?
IF YOU EVER SHOW YOURSELF DEVOTED TO ANYTHING, THAT'S WHEN YOU'LL LOOK SEXY!
SO WHAT DOES TOSH HAVE LIKE THAT!?
TOSHIO'S EYES ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THAN YOURS WHEN IT COMES TO THE CAT!!
NO!!
HURRY !!
WE'VE RECEIVED A NOTICE FROM THE CAT FOR THE UNZEN MUSEUM!!
.....
HIRANO!
TAKEUCHI!!
ASATANI !!

I'M GOING ON AHEAD !!
WHAT ARE YOU DILLY-DALLY-ING ABOUT !?
RIGHT... HITOMI !?
A MAN IS SEXY WHEN HE THROWS HIMSELF INTO HIS WORK
UN-DER-STAND ?
IF HE JUST WEREN'T SO CLUMSY
I AIN'T COPY-ING THAT
THAT'S SEXY?
I'LL DEFI-NITELY CATCH HER THIS T...
THAT DAMN THIEF!!
AND...BECAUSE THE CAT THAT TOSHIO DEVOTES HIMSELF TO IS ME, HE'LL NEVER RECOVER!!
IME... WA !?

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE TWO BY ASSISTANT C
ASSISTANT D RESEMBLES A MONSTER FROM A CERTAIN SCIFI FILM.

I'M THE DRAGON FROM "THE NEVERENDING STORY"
ASSISTANT E RESEMBLES A PUPPET FROM A CERTAIN FOREIGN TELEVISION SHOW.
THUNDER BIRD
THUNDER-BIRD ONE, BLAST OFF!
ASSISTANT C RESEMBLES THE HANDSOME SINGER HIROMI GO
HA HA
SUCH A PAIN!
HEY HEY HEY! GET BACK TO WORK!
FREAK SHOW
LOOK AT THIS! CHECK IT OUT! HA HA HA!
ALL OF THEM SKIP WORK TO DO STUFF LIKE THIS!

THAT'S YOUR HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD?

AT CAT'S EYE CAFE AS THE ONLY MAN AMONG THREE GIRLS I AM RELIED ON AS THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD.
UH... UHHH....
OR SO YOU MIGHT THINK, BUT THE TRUTH IS QUITE DIFFER-ENT...
AH..UH... PLEASE... STOP...
NORMALLY IN A FEMALE-ONLY HOUSE, BY WAY OF CAUTION, THEY WOULD HANG A MAN'S UNDERWEAR SEPARATE FROM THE REST OF THE LAUNDRY...
TOSHI ...
HA HH H
WHAT IS IT, TOSHIO?
UOHHH.... OHHH...
BUT HERE THEY HANG MY UNDER-WEAR MIXED RIGHT IN WITH THEIR UNDER-WEAR...

RUI !!
UH... AH... STOP IT... RU...
AH...!?
TOSHIO!?
YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT...
SIS!?
R-RUI !!
HUHN...?
HUH...?
WHAT ABOUT RUI! CHEATER!!

CHIRP CHIRP
CHIRP CHIIIRP
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
OH, GOOD MORNING HITOMI...
...GOOD MORNING.
STARE
WHAT IS IT?
NOTHING
AH... ISN'T TODAY TOSHIO'S DAY OFF? I SUPPOSE YOU'LL BE GOING OUT SOMEWHERE WITH HIM...
I CAN'T WAKE HIM HIM NOW. HE WAS OUT LATE LAST NIGHT AT A MEETING PLANNING FOR MUSEUM SECURITY!!

KALUNK KALUNK
?
SHEESH THAT TOSHIO...
ANYWAY I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT TODAY!!
RUIIII
WHAT I WAS HE DREAMING, ANYWAY...
YAWN
SHUT UP!!
G-GOOD MORNING HITOM...
ROUND AND ROUND...
THE ROOM IS SPINNING!! MY HEAD IS SPINNING!!
AHHHH
?

WHY WAS I SLEEPING HERE?
THROB
THROB
I WONDER IF I SLEPT IN A WEIRD POSITION...
OWWW
WHAT'S THIS LUMP ON MY HEAD?
THROB
.....
TANGLE
TOSHIO
"
CARELESSLY MIXED IN WITH THE GIRLS' UNDERWEAR
OHHG-AHH MY POOR UNDERWEAR
GOOD MORNING! SO YOU'RE AWAKE NOW?

HUH ...?
DAMN! I WAS THINKING I'D ASK HIM ABOUT HIS DREAM LAST NIGHT!
WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS!?
TOSHIO! GET UP ALREADY !!
DUB
SWEATING !!!
M-MY BRIEFS
WHEN DID YOU FIND THAT!? IT HAS BROWN PLACES!!
TOSHIO ?
UWAHH! LEAVE THAT ALONE!!
IN THAT CASE, LET'S HOPE HASN'T ALREADY HAD BREAK-FAST...
BUT I WAS THINKING HITOMI HAS DONE IT UP TILL NOW, SO I SHOULD DO IT FOR A CHANGE!!
YOU SHOULD LET ME WASH MY OWN UN-DERWEAR!!
BUT IT WAS IN THE LAUNDRY ROOM
I PUT IT IN THERE LAST NIGHT PLANNING TO WASH IT THIS MORNING.

OF HOUSE HOLD?
HEAD
YOU SHOULD LET ME! YOU'RE THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD AFTER ALL!!
N-NO !!
I'M JUST TRYING TO GET BACK MY UNDER-WEAR FROM...
OH ...
HITOMI !!
ENOKI
WHAT ARE THE TWO OF YOU UP TO
TO HANG A MAN'S UNDERWEAR ON THE VERANDA FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
IT IS PER-FECTLY NORMAL
EXCUSE ME!
UH...
AH...WAIT, HITOMI!!

AAH... AAH... AHH
AH HHH !!
AAH...
HEY! WHY ARE YOU SO ANGRY!?
HUH ?
O-OOF
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, TOSHIO...?
GYA HH-HH
IDIOT...
HOUSE CATS

SORRY, SORRY SO HAVE YOU ASKED HIM ABOUT THE DREAM?
I LOST MY CHANCE BECAUSE OF THAT RUCKUS!!
IF TOSHIO AND RUI ARE...
IT'S NOTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT !!
HEH HEH. I GUESS THERE'S A DEEPER MEANING HERE!!
NO WAY... RUI!?
I GOT IT. YOU WANT ME TO ASK HIM!!
SO I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU...
SOOOO
FSST
OK-KAY!! LEAVE IT TO ME! I WON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM ASKING HIM!!
UH-HUH
THUMP

MR. TOHHH-SHIO
TAKEUTI JYUNKOSAN
HUH ...
SNUFK
SHEESH HE HARDLY EVER GETS A DAY OFF, AND THEN ALL HE DOES IS SLEEP
HEY! WAKE UP!!
PINCH
MY SISTER DOESN'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU DO THIS.
FUU... GAAAA
AH!?
KYAH !!
SQUEEZE

H-HEY WAIT, MR. TOSHIO !!
SNAH-NK
KYAH!
HUH ...?
NOAH
SHEESH. THERE'S NOTHING DANGEROUS ABOUT THIS GUY
ZZZZZ
SUCH A HAPPY FACE...
EH?
AI...
COME... CLOSER...
DOKI
SURELY NOT REALLY ...?
SURE
AI...

YOU SMELL LIKE MOTHER'S MILK LIKE ALWAYS.
HUH?
?

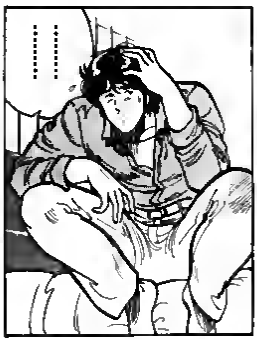
WHAT DID TOSHIO DO!?
M- MR. TOSHIO
HUFF
HUFF
WAN
WH- WHAT HAP- PENED, AI?
HE SAID MY NAME
CALLED OUT TO YOU?
IN HIS SLEEP...
HE CALLED OUT TO ME
AND THEN...
TOS HIO- HH- HH!!
IT WAS REALLY BIG.
HE SAID I SMELLED LIKE MOTHER'S MILK.
EH!?
THEN HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS!!

HUH!?
MY HEAD IS HAVING A REALLY BAD DAY TODAY
UH HH
HOHH
.....
THAT STANDS OUT!!
BAM
THAT'S WHAT A HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD LOOKS LIKE
?
IT'S NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING
EH? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN...
YOU MEAN HE ESCAPED !!
WHAA?
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TOSHIO, HE JUST WENT OUT...

EH... AH...
YOU CALLED OUT BOTH TO RUI AND TO AI BUT NOT TO ME!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT!!

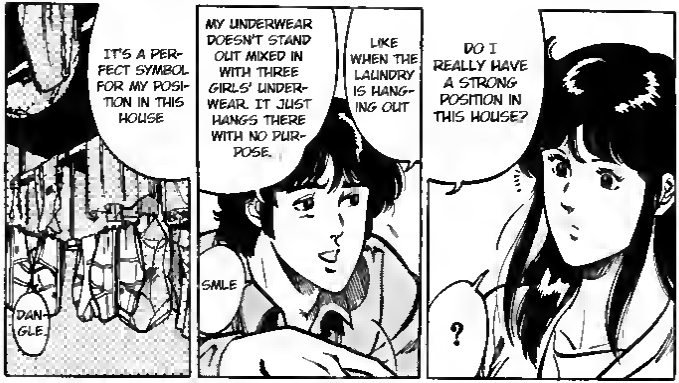
WHAT WERE YOU DREAM-ING!?
NOW TELL ME ONCE AND FOR ALL!!

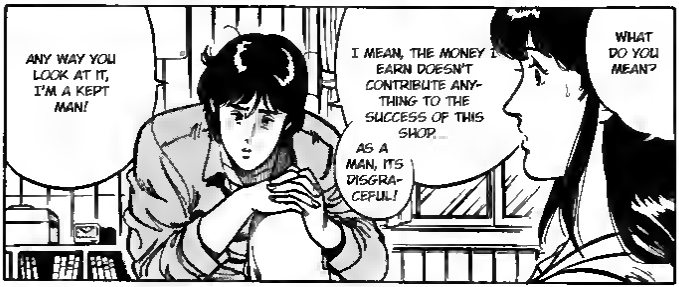
AH...

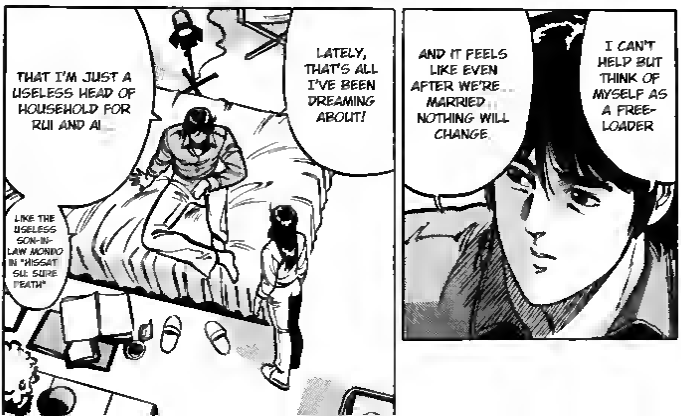

.....

FINE... THEN WHAT KIND WAS IT...

N-NO! OF COURSE NOT!! IT WASN'T ANY KIND OF SEXY DREAM LIKE THAT!!
HAVE YOU PERHAPS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THOSE TWO...


DO I REALLY HAVE A STRONG POSITION IN THIS HOUSE?
?
LIKE WHEN THE LAUNDRY IS HANGING OUT
MY UNDERWEAR DOESN'T STAND OUT MIXED IN WITH THREE GIRLS' UNDERWEAR. IT JUST HANGS THERE WITH NO PURPOSE.
SMILE
IT'S A PERFECT SYMBOL FOR MY POSITION IN THIS HOUSE
DANGLE


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I MEAN, THE MONEY I EARN DOESN'T CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS SHOP...
AS A MAN, IT'S DISGRACEFUL!
ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, I'M A KEPT MAN!

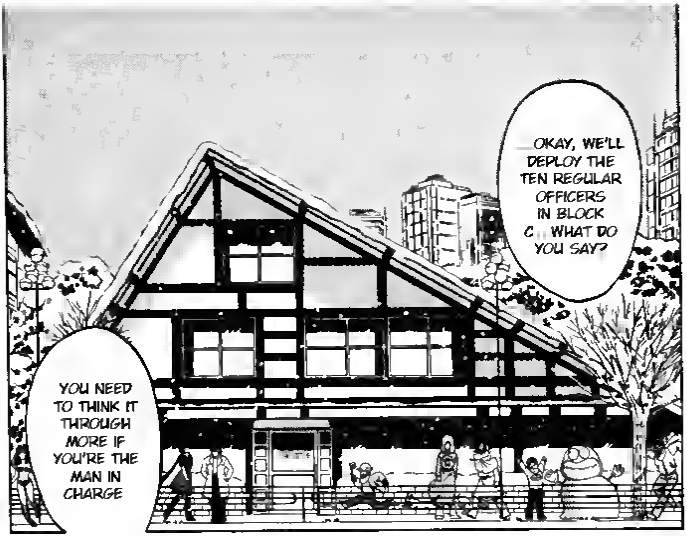

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK OF MYSELF AS A FREELOADER
AND IT FEELS LIKE EVEN AFTER WE'RE MARRIED... NOTHING WILL CHANGE...
LATELY, THAT'S ALL I'VE BEEN DREAMING ABOUT!
THAT I'M JUST A USELESS HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD FOR RUI AND AI...
LIKE THE USELESS SON-IN-LAW MONRO IN "NISSAN SU: SURE FEATH"

SHEESH... SUCH AN IDIOT
AHA. HA HA SORRY
IT'S NOTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT! HEY!!
KYAHH HA HA HA
NO WAY!
PU.
I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING BUT SARCASM.
YOU'RE THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD!!
YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN IN THE HOUSE, AND WE RELY ON YOU VERY MUCH.
I'M SORRY, TOSHIO.
NO NOT YOU.
I GUESS I AM.
NOBODY IS THINKING ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT SUCH WEIRD STUFF.

HITOMI
CHIRP CHIRP
YOU WASHED THEM YOURSELF AGAIN?
COULD YOU HANG THESE FOR ME? I'M GOING TO BE LATE
CHIRP CHIRRRP
HUH?
SHEESH YOU WANT TO BE THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD BUT YOU DO YOUR OWN LAUNDRY
LEAVE THESE TO ME FROM NOW ON
HANG THEM SO THEY STAND OUT!
THAT TOSHIO!
FLUTTER FLUTTER
ばんっ!!
OH...!!

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE THREE BY TSUKASA-CHAN

THREE MEN TOGETHER
ADD UP TO ONE


OKAY, WE'LL DEPLOY THE TEN REGULAR OFFICERS IN BLOCK C... WHAT DO YOU SAY?
YOU NEED TO THINK IT THROUGH MORE IF YOU'RE THE MAN IN CHARGE

BUT IF NO ONE IS HERE SHE'LL GET OUT. WE NEED AT LEAST TEN PEOPLE HERE!!
I'LL BE THERE!!
WHAT IF THE CAT COMES IN HERE!?

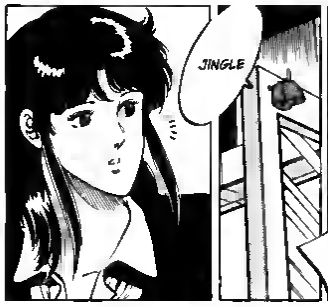
BUT WHAT IF SHE COMES IN HERE?
THIS SECURITY PLAN IS PERFECT! OKAY!?
OH! I GUESS YOU'RE THE BOSS FOR A REASON!!
AH...
THERE'S NO REASON TO WASTE THAT MANY GUARDING THE SAME PLACE!! WE'LL LEAVE THAT PLACE TO A BLOCK!!

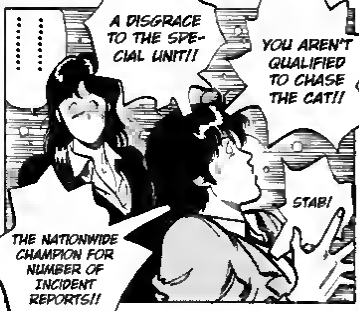
WE'VE GOT TO DO IT OVER COMPLETELY!!
DAMN!!

CATS

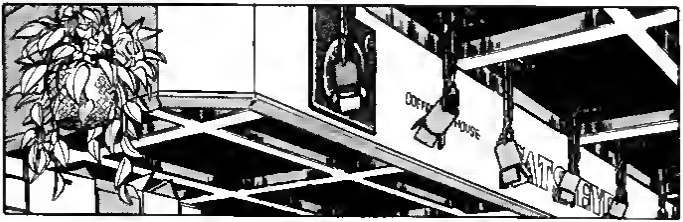
ONE WORD FROM AN AMATEUR UPSETS YOUR WHOLE PLAN? WHAT KIND OF SECURITY SPECIALIST ARE YOU?
PA-THET-IC...

MAYBE YOU SHOULD GIVE UP BEING LEADER, OR QUIT THE SPECIAL UNIT ALTOGETHER?
BOSS, YA WANNA CATCH THE CAT MORE'N WE DO, RIGHT?

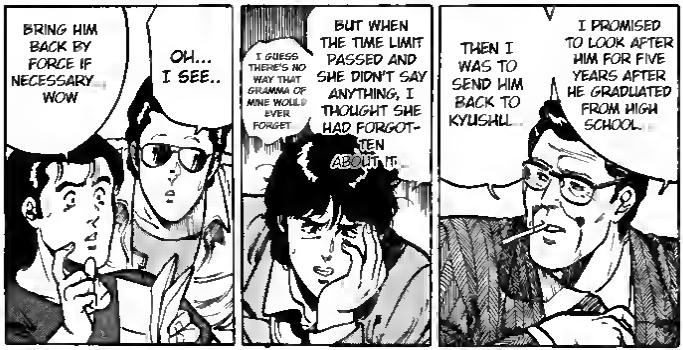

JINGLE


A DISGRACE TO THE SPE-CIAL UNIT!!
YOU AREN'T QUALIFIED TO CHASE THE CAT!!
STAB!
THE NATIONWIDE CHAMPION FOR NUMBER OF INCIDENT REPORTS!!

SHADDAP!! YOU GUYS HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHY WE HAVEN'T YET CAUGHT THE CAT!!
OH, IT'S THE CHIEF!! THAT'S UNUSUAL.
PAT PAT
PLUNK
IT WAS DELIVERED TO ME THIS MORNING AT THE STATION.
I GUESS IT'S GAME OVER, HUH TOSHIO?
A LETTER FROM GRANNIE !!
A...
SWEAT
!!
CHIEF ...


DOG FOOD HOUSE
CAT'S EYE

DID YOU ACTUALLY PROMISE YOUR GRANDMOTHER THAT? TOSHIO!!
BASICALLY, HE HAS TO QUIT THE FORCE TO GO TAKE OVER THE FAMILY BUSINESS!?


BRING HIM BACK BY FORCE IF NECESSARY... WOW
OH... I SEE..
I GUESS THERE'S NO WAY THAT GRANMA OF MINE WOULD EVER FORGET
BUT WHEN THE TIME LIMIT PASSED AND SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, I THOUGHT SHE HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT...
THEN I WAS TO SEND HIM BACK TO KYUSHU...
I PROMISED TO LOOK AFTER HIM FOR FIVE YEARS AFTER HE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL...

Q-QUIT JOKING AROUND! WE HAVEN'T YET CAUGHT THE CAT...!!
YOU CAN QUIT COMPLETELY!!
IT'S PERFECT TIMIN' AIN'T IT BOSS...

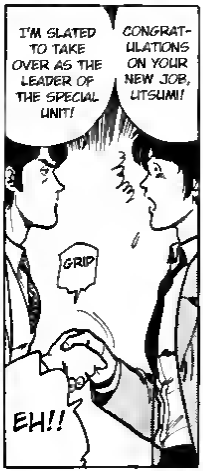
.....
DUMBASSES!! DO YOU THINK YOU'D EVER CATCH THE CAT BY YOURSELVES!?
YA MUST THINK HE SHOULD LEAVE THE CAT TO US AN' GO WORK THE FAMILY BUSINESS!!
HITOMI, I'M PRETTY SURE YOU THINK HE ISN'T CUT OUT TO BE A COP, RIGHT!?
UH... HUH.
SHEESH. THEY'RE ALL' OUT TO GET ME!!
WITHOUT ME WHO'S GONNA CATCH HER?
CAT'S EYES SPECIAL UNIT
CLACK
I'M ESSENTIAL HERE AND NOWHERE ELSE!!
THAT FAMILY BUSINESS WILL KEEP GOING WITHOUT ME THERE!!

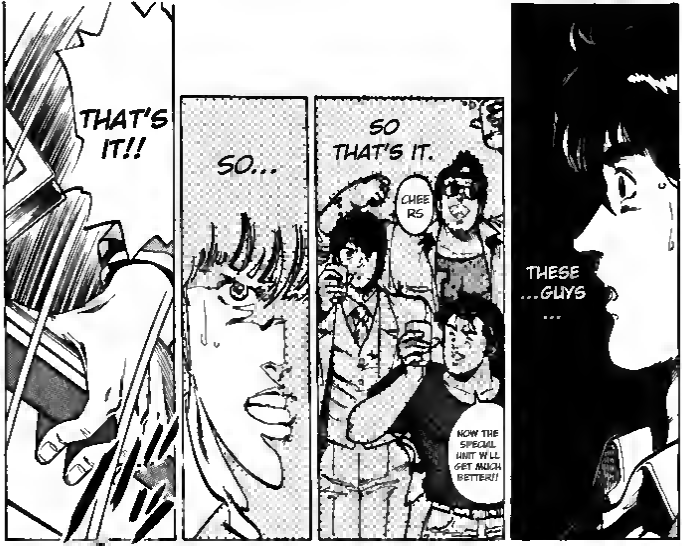
BANG
祝復実転職
POP

HUH ...

DON'T SAY THAT TAKE THAT'S RUDE
ANYWAY TOSH WAS JUST IN THE WAY HERE!!
CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
ANYHOW, CONGRATU-LATIONS!!

YA WON'T BE MISSED AT ALL, BOSS
SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE CAT!
POP


I'M SLATED TO TAKE OVER AS THE LEADER OF THE SPECIAL UNIT!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON YOUR NEW JOB, UTSUMI!
GRIP
EH!!


THESE ...GUYS ...
SO THAT'S IT.
CHEERS
NOW THE SPECIAL UNIT W'LL GET MUCH BETTER!!
SO...
THAT'S IT!!

...WHICH MEANS ...
HEH HEH HE...
YOU DON'T NEED MY DESK IN THIS PLACE ...
!!

UH-HUH... IT WAS FOR THE BEST...
...DO YOU THINK WE DID THE RIGHT THING...?
TOSH!!
BY THE WAY, I CAN'T STAND THE HEAT!
I'LL QUIT THAT MISERABLE SPECIAL UNIT!!
DAMN!!
DAMN! IT REALLY PISSES ME OFF !!
TREATING ME LIKE I'M A NUISANCE.
ARE THEY ALL ADOLESCENTS?

I'LL PROVE TO THEM THEY NEED ME TO CATCH THE CAT.
FINE
I THOUGHT HE CAME HOME IN A FOUL TEMPER.
GOOD-NESS ME
THEY'LL LEARN THEIR LESSON!!
NO... HE'S NOT A HAPHAZARD COP LIKE ME...
DO YA THINK WE WENT TOO FAR?
I GUESS IT'S TOSH'S PARTING SHOT...
IF IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS WE'LL BE COM-PLETELY SNOWED IN BY TONIGHT
WOAH. CHECK THAT OUT

OUCH
IS YOUR HEAD OKAY...?
S-STEEL!! WHO HAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
ドス!!
ACK !!
I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH BOTH OF YOU CONCERNING THE RESIGNATION OF DETECTIVE UTSUMI FROM THE SPECIAL UNIT. PLEASE MEET ME TONIGHT AT ONE A.M. IN INUNARI PARK. C.E
IT'S HER!!
THE CAT!!
GRIN
MY AIM SUCKS

I'M MADE OF DIFFERENT STUFF THAN YOU !!
TH-TH-THOUGH YA ARE SH-SH-SHI VERIN'
HOW CAN YA STAND THIS COLD IN THAT?
.....
SHIVER
WHO KNOWS.. MAYBE MAKING SNOWMEN OUT OF US?
PHOO
ANYHOW, WHAT COULD THAT CAT BE UP TO CALLIN' US OUT HERE LIKE THIS
A WARN-ING!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY CALLING JUST THE TWO OF US OUT!?
HUH !?
THAT MIGHT BE FUN.
WHAT!! SHOW YERSELF! WHERE ARE YA!?
I MEAN TO SHOW YOU JUST HOW WORTHLESS THE SPECIAL UNIT WILL BE WITHOUT DETECTIVE UTSUMI.
HER VOICE SOUNDS KINDA LIKE A TRANNIE ...!?
THE CAT!!

WHY YOU! I'LL MAKE YOU SAY IT!!
ARE YOU SAYING THE TWO OF US ALONE ARE NO MATCH FOR YOU!?
EXACTLY WITHOUT DETECTIVE UTSUMI IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CALL YOU RIVALS!
I'M UP IN THE TREE BEHIND YOU...
UH !?
DAMN!
QUIT SCREWING WITH US!!
.....
GYUBAH !!
HUH?

AFTER HER!!
HEH HEH COME ON AFTER ME
LOOK! OVER THERE!!
CREEPY ALRIGHT!
BUT WE ALWAYS CHASE HIM FROM BEHIND!
UH-HUH... TOSH CHASES THE CAT FROM BEHIND...
WE'RE ALWAYS CHASIN' BEHIND BOSS!
I MEAN, THINK ABOUT IT!
AHHH... UHHH...
SAY, TAKE DON'T IT SEEM SOME-THIN' DON'T ADD UP?

I-I'M THINKING THE SAME THING
IT MAY BE THE SNOW, BUT DON'T THE CAT LOOK LIKE BOSS FROM THIS ANGLE ...?
TAKE ...
UH-HUH
DAMN
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE THE BOSS THIS WAY EVER AGAIN...
WAHHH!!
ズッ
DAMN !!
UOHH-HH

DAMN. CAUGHT IN A SIMPLE TRAP LIKE A COUPLE OF CHILDREN.
NOW YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IT FOR AWHILE !!
RIGHT IN THE HOLE I PREPARED FOR YOU.
YOU'RE CAUGHT NOW, ODD COUPLE!
HAHH HA HA!!
ズロロロ
HIII
CAT !!
PLOP
T-THIS IS QUITE A HOLE YOU DUG...
IT'S DARK DOWN HERE...
WE AREN'T GOING TO GET OUT UNTIL SOMEONE COMES ALONG...
YA REALLY GIT WILL-POWER INTA TRIGGIN' IT, HUH

THAT'S NOT TRUE..
SO YOU CAME BACK TO HAVE A LOOK AT US WHILE WE'RE DOWN
HMPH
IT'S EXACTLY HOW YA SAID IT WAS!! WE AIN'T UP TO THE JOB!!
SO STOP TRYING TO FORCE DETECTIVE UTSUMI TO QUIT THE FORCE
YOU CAN'T ALLOW YOURSELVES TO SPLIT UP
YOU THREE TOGETHER ADD UP TO ONE!
IF IT WERE ONLY DETECTIVE KEIJI, YOU COULDN'T CALL HIM A RIVAL EITHER.
MEANING, ONLY THE THREE OF YOU TOGETHER CAN BE CALLED MY RIVAL
WH-WHAT ABOUT US! HEY!!
THAT'S ALL I WANTED. SEE YA!
I'M SURE TOSHIO WILL BE COMING BACK...

THEY COULD END UP BURIED IN ALL THIS SNOW...
I WONDER IF I WENT TOO FAR.
AND ANYWAY, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LET TOSHIO LEAVE HERE EITHER.
HEEYYY
!?
EH?
W-WAIT TOSH. DON'T GO.
DON'T GO OFF TO KYUSHUUU!!
BOSS
ARE YOU TWO ALRIGHT?
TOSH ...!
BE PATIENT I'LL GO FETCH A ROPE!

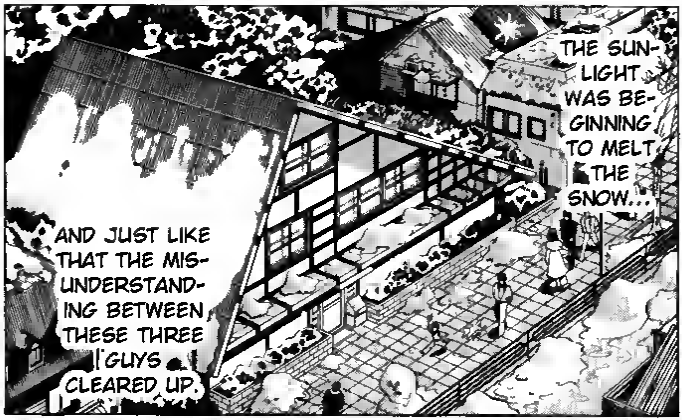
SO WE FIGURED IT'D BE BETTER FOR YA TO GO BACK TO THAT FAMILY BUSINESS IN KYUSHU RIGHT AWAY
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH THE CAT WITH IDIOT COPS LIKE US AT YOUR SIDE
EH...
WE DID THAT STUFF AT THE PARTY ON PUR-POSE...
YOU GUYS...
BUT I GUESS... WE THREE REALLY DO ADD UP TO ONE!!
WE MADE UP THAT STORY ABOUT KIZAKI BEING SLATED TO TAKE YOUR PLACE...
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH A DUMBASS THAT FALLS INTO THE HOLE HE'S SUPPOSED TO HELP US OUT OF?
GO ON BACK TA KYUSHU MORON!!
HYEHH
.....
YOU...
STEP
GUYS!?
AH-AH-HH!?

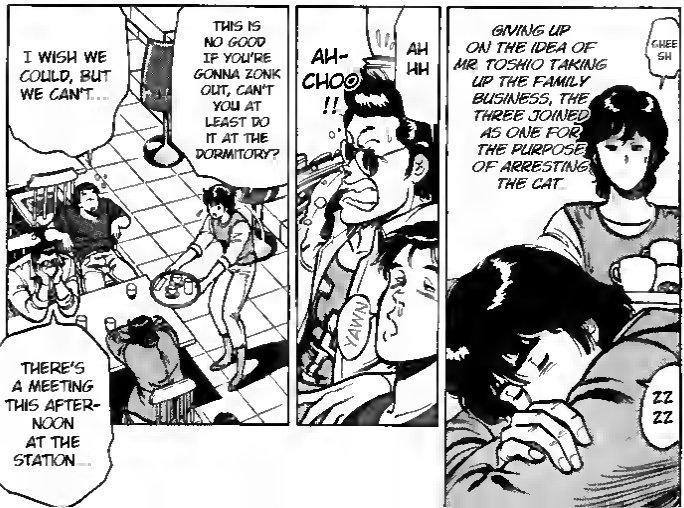
EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE FOUR BY TSUKASA-CHAN

HE'S SUCH A KIND AND GENTLE GUY!
MR. POTATO WAS THE EDITOR FOR CAT'S EYE BEFORE IT ENDED A YEAR AGO
SOMETHING WILL TURN AROUND SOON!
DON'T LOOK SO DISCO-URAGED! BUCK UP!
KA-CHING
TRULY A KIND AND GENTLE PERSON!
THANK YO...

PANTIES ARE SCARY!!

BELYING THE HUGE SNOWFALL THE NIGHT BEFORE, THE BLUE SKY SHINED BRIGHTLY.

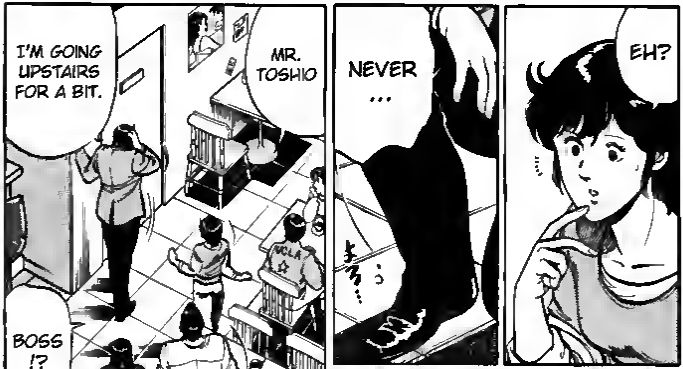

THE SUN-LIGHT WAS BE-GINNING TO MELT THE SNOW...
AND JUST LIKE THAT THE MIS-UNDERSTAND-ING BETWEEN THESE THREE GUYS CLEARED UP.

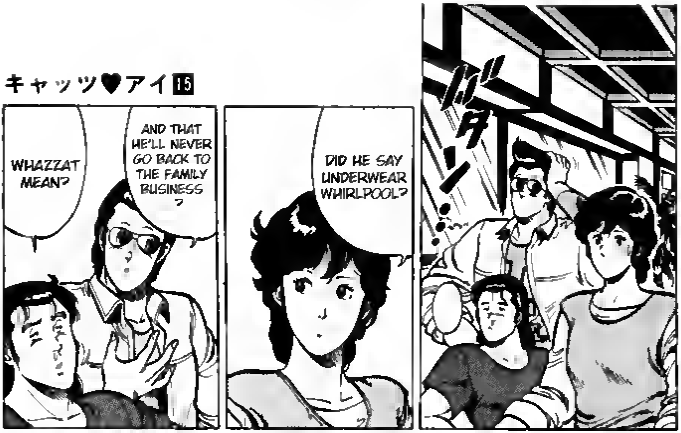

I WISH WE COULD, BUT WE CAN'T...
THIS IS NO GOOD IF YOU'RE GONNA ZONK OUT, CAN'T YOU AT LEAST DO IT AT THE DORMITORY?
THERE'S A MEETING THIS AFTER-NOON AT THE STATION...
AH-CHOO!!
AH HH
YAWN
GIVING UP ON THE IDEA OF MR. TOSHIO TAKING UP THE FAMILY BUSINESS, THE THREE JOINED AS ONE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ARRESTING THE CAT.
GHEE SH
ZZ ZZ

SHOCK!
ST-
STOP
IT.
NO
OO
UH...
MR. TOSHIO, YOU SHOULDN'T SLEEP IN YOUR CHAIR LIKE THAT. YOU'LL CATCH COLD.
STOP IT!!
EH?
LOOK OUT! IN HIS SLEEP, MR. TOSHIO IS SAYING SOMETHING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN. IT'S AN OMEN!!
WHAT IS IT, AL..
UH... UHH-HHH
NO... DON'T ...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT... MR. TOSHIO
AHHHHH...

...NO. I'LL NEVER GO BACK TO THE FAMILY BUSINESS!!
A- AN UNDERWEAR WHIRLPOOL...


I'M GOING UPSTAIRS FOR A BIT.
MR. TOSHIO
BOSS!?
NEVER...
EH?


AND THAT HE'LL NEVER GO BACK TO THE FAMILY BUSINESS
WHAZZAT MEAN?
DID HE SAY UNDERWEAR WHIRLPOOL?
ガタン!

BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH AN UNDERWEAR WHIRLPOOL?
I GUESS HE REALLY DOESN'T WANT TO GO BACK TO THE FAMILY BUSINESS...
BY THE WAY, WHAT IS HIS FAMILY BUSINESS ANYWAY?

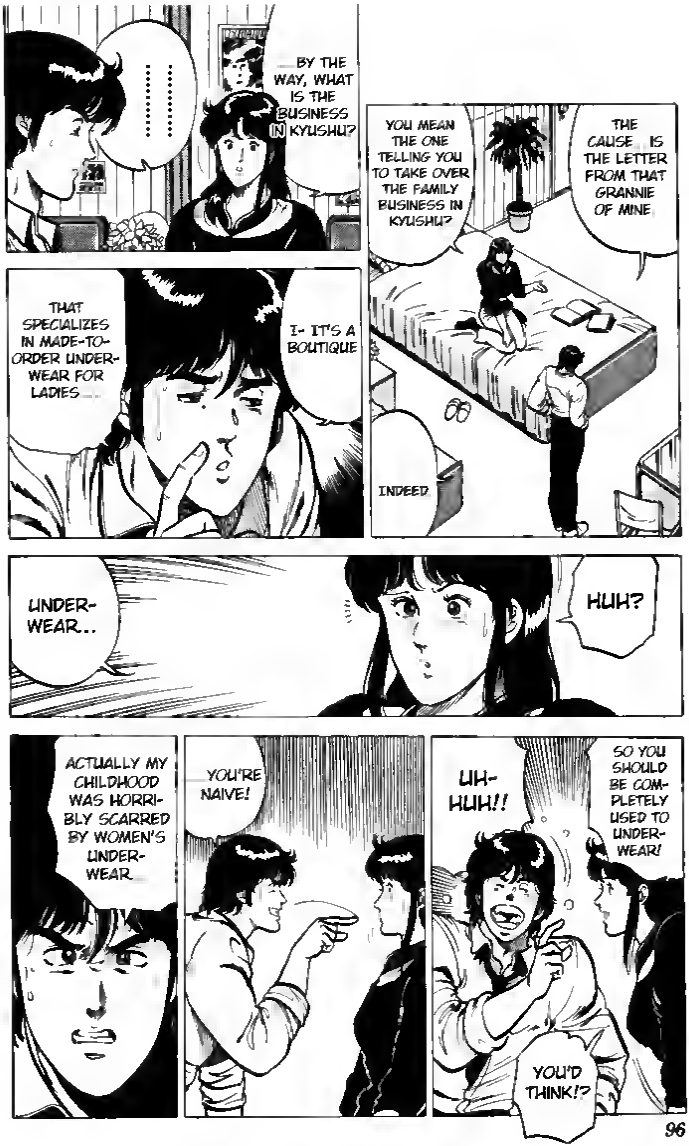
CLICK
MADE ME REMEMBER ALL THAT STUFF I DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER...
THAT OLD BAG THAT LETTER...
?
!!
STEP

.....
KYAH...
?
!!
AHHHHHHHHH AH!!
AH!

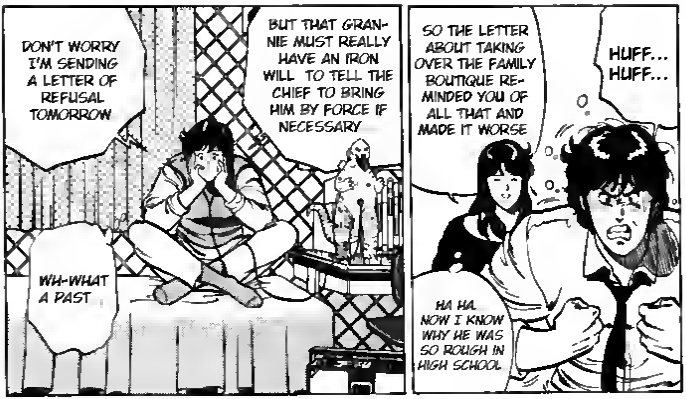
!?
WHAT'S WRONG, HITOMI !?
SIS!!
ISN'T THAT THE OPPOSITE REACTION ?
WHY DID YOU FAINT AFTER SEEING THAT!?
TOSHIO!! TOSHI...
OH..♡ HMM
HITOMI'S ONLY WEARIN' A SWEATER !!
GEH!!
FIST

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
HUH...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFFF
ANYWAY IT WAS RUDE!! TO FAINT WHEN YOU SEE ME NAKED SINCE WHEN DID YOU GET A PHOBIA OF NUDITY!?
WHAT'S WITH THE ATTITUDE!? I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
OH... NOTHING. LET IT GO!
HUH?
TOSHIO
IDIOT!! I NEVER FAINTED WHEN I SAW YOU NAKED! YOU WERE WEARING UNDERWEAR!!

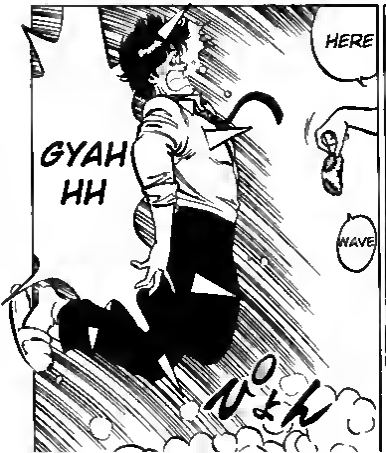
GYAHH !!
HERE!
WH-WHAT'S THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
IT'S THAT UNDER-WEAR PHOBIA AGAIN.
I GET IT.
.....
WHEEZE
GASP
WHEEZE
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S WORSE THAN BEFORE...
BUT IT'S WEIRD
I JUST SAID SOME-THING A BIT AWK-WARD
WHAT'S THE CAUSE OF IT? TELL ME!!
HUH!?
NO! IF IT KEEPS ON LIKE THIS IT COULD GET SO BAD THAT IT AFFECTS OUR MARRIED LIFE!!
J-JUST LET IT GO, HITOMI. IT'S GOT NOTH-ING TO DO WITH YOU!!


.....
BY THE WAY, WHAT IS THE BUSINESS IN KYUSHU?
THE CAUSE IS THE LETTER FROM THAT GRANNIE OF MINE
YOU MEAN THE ONE TELLING YOU TO TAKE OVER THE FAMILY BUSINESS IN KYUSHU?
INDEED
I- IT'S A BOUTIQUE
THAT SPECIALIZES IN MADE-TO-ORDER UNDER-WEAR FOR LADIES...
HUH?
UNDER-WEAR..
SO YOU SHOULD BE COM-PLETELY USED TO UNDER-WEAR!
UH-HUH!!
YOU'D THINK!?
YOU'RE NAIVE!
ACTUALLY MY CHILDHOOD WAS HORRI-BLY SCARRED BY WOMEN'S UNDER-WEAR...

AT FIRST THE FAMILY WAS SHOCKED, BUT EVENTUALLY THEY STARTED TREATING ME LIKE A DRESS-UP DOLL, AND I THOUGH EVERYTHING WAS NORMAL.
IT WAS ON ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THAT I LEARNED MY MISTAKE.
SHHH
...SO WHEN I WAS LITTLE...
MY FATHER DIED WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG SO GROWING UP I WAS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY WOMEN. THE FAMILY BUSINESS WAS UNDERWEAR.
SURELY NOT!!
THAT'S RIGHT I WANTED TO BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE AND WEAR THE SAME UNDERWEAR. I THOUGHT IT WAS GROSS TO WEAR A DIFFERENT KIND.
WHEN IT CAME TIME TO CHANGE FOR GYM CLASS, EVERYONE FOUND OUT.
SH BE SH
I AM... I AM A...
I GET IT! I GET IT! CALM DOWN!!
I HAVE TRIED TO LIVE MY LIFE AS A MAN AND FIGHT WHEN I NEEDED TO FIGHT...
EVER SINCE THEN I HAVE DETESTED GIRLS' UNDER-WEAR.
THE GIRLS WERE GROSSED OUT... THEY STARTED CALLING ME LITTLE FRILLS!!
THE BOYS TEASED ME AND CALLED ME A TRANNIE!!
TH-THAT'S DARK...!!

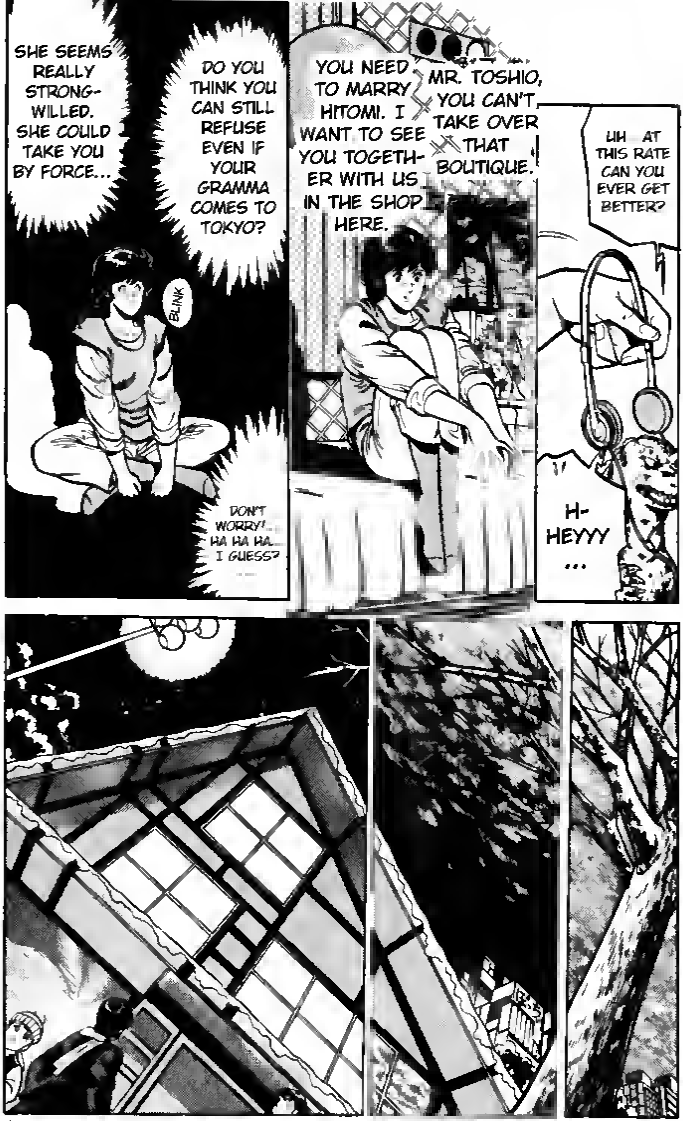

DON'T WORRY I'M SENDING A LETTER OF REFUSAL TOMORROW
BUT THAT GRANNIE MUST REALLY HAVE AN IRON WILL TO TELL THE CHIEF TO BRING HIM BY FORCE IF NECESSARY
WH-WHAT A PAST
SO THE LETTER ABOUT TAKING OVER THE FAMILY BOUTIQUE REMINDED YOU OF ALL THAT AND MADE IT WORSE
HUFF... HUFF...
HA HA. NOW I KNOW WHY HE WAS SO ROUGH IN HIGH SCHOOL

SURELY SHE WON'T GO THAT FAR. DON'T WORRY... HA HA HA... I GUESS?...
!!
BUT WHAT IF YOUR GRAMMA COMES TO TOKYO? WILL REFUSAL BE ENOUGH?


GYAH HH
HERE
WAVE
ぴょん

HMM?

TOSHIO ...


SHE SEEMS REALLY STRONG-WILLED. SHE COULD TAKE YOU BY FORCE...
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STILL REFUSE EVEN IF YOUR GRAMMA COMES TO TOKYO?
BLINK
DON'T WORRY! HA HA HA... I GUESS?
YOU NEED TO MARRY HITOMI. I WANT TO SEE YOU TOGETHER WITH US IN THE SHOP HERE.
MR. TOSHIO, YOU CAN'T TAKE OVER THAT BOUTIQUE.
UH AT THIS RATE CAN YOU EVER GET BETTER?
H-HEYYY ...

WHAT IS IT, AI?
HEY, AI WHERE'S TOSH? HE DIDN'T SHOW UP FOR OUR MEETING THIS AFTERNOON
ANYONE HERE
I SEE SO HE'S UP AGAINST HIS STRONG-WILLED GRAND-MOTHER FROM KYUSHU...
IF HE LEFT, WE'D BE PRETTY BUMMED AS WELL
SAY, DO THINK THERE'S A WAY WE CAN MAKE SURE HE'LL NEVER GO BACK TO THE BOUTIQUE?
NOTHING'S IMPOSSI-BLE...
HUH?
GRIN

TOSHIO FAINTED WHEN HE SAW HITOMI IN HER UNDERWEAR WE JUST NEED TO PROVIDE ANOTHER EQUALLY STRONG SHOCK!
BUT HOW?
AH... I SEE!!
IT'S EASY. IF WE MAKE HIS UNDERWEAR PHOBIA EVEN WORSE, HE CAN'T POSSIBLY WORK IN AN UNDERWEAR BOUTIQUE!
YOU REALLY THINK THAT'LL WORK!?
WH- WH- WHADDAYA SAYIN'? I'M AGAINST IT!!
YEAH! GREAT IDEA!!
SO IF WE LET HIM SEE THE EVEN SEXIER RUI IN HER UNDERWEAR
HEY! I WANNA SEE RUI IN HER UNDER-WEAR!
HOW COME BOSS GETS ALL THE FUN!?
HE'LL GET A SHOCK WORSE THAN FAINTING AND HIS HATRED OF UNDERWEAR WILL GROW EVEN STRONGER
WHACK

UHHH... BOSS...
HE SEEMS TO BE INTO THIS...
THERE!! WHILE HE'S OUT LET'S PUT OUR PLAN INTO ACTION!!
EH?
YOU'RE GIVING ME THAT UNDER-WEAR?
UH-HUH... I BOUGHT IT BECAUSE I LIKED THE DESIGN, BUT IT'S TOO BIG.
BUT IF IT'S PERFECT FOR YOU, THERE ISN'T ANY POINT IN TAKING IT BACK, RIGHT?
HMM. BUT EVEN IF IT FITS, DO I HAVE TO LIKE IT...BUT IF IT'S FREE I'LL TAKE IT.
OHH... THANKS SO MUCH
... OF COURSE IT'S FREE.

THE BAG LOOKS LIKE IT CAME FROM A VIDEO RENTAL STORE

TINK
KA-LUNK
OK!
TRY IT ON RIGHT AWAY!!
HURRY IF IT DOESN'T FIT I'LL TAKE IT BACK AND EXCHANGE IT
SWISH
BE QUICK ABOUT IT. I NEED TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE MEETING...
TAP TAP
SURE, SURE
RUI?
EH?
I GUESS IT'S TOUGH TO BE THE WORKMAN IN THIS FAMILY?
SHE NEEDS YOUR HELP MOVING A BOOK-SHELF...

TAKESHI! WAKE UP!
UH.. UHH...
TAKESHI !!

RUI

OH NO! MISS RUI IS IN DANGER !!
AH!

EH?

WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID YOU END UP HERE?
ALL OF A SUDDEN TAKE...

HEH HEH HEH

RUI
CLICK

CLIP

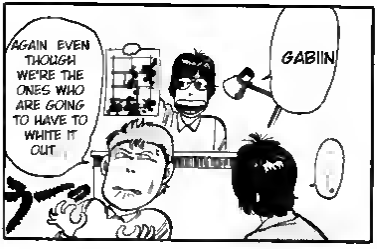
HEH HEH HEH ..
ABOUT NOW SHE'LL BE TRYING ON THE NEW UNDERWEAR

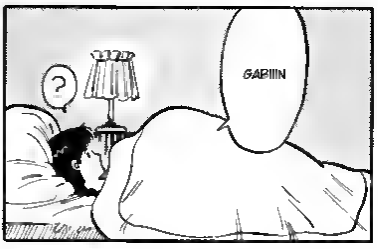
MR. TAKE !!
UH-OH! HE'S ALREADY AWAKE!?
HO-HHH-HH!!
RUI, I'M COMING IN.
OPEN
WAIT BOSS!! IT'S A TRAP!!
KYAH
STOP IT, DUMBASS. WE'VE SET IT ALL UP !!
GEH !!

DID IT!!
PER-FECT !!
RUI
HUH?
?
SILENCE
RUI
.....
RUI
I GUESS IT WAS A SHOCK, HUH...
SO SORRY TO BOTHER YOU...
RUI
EH!?
...HE DIDN'T FAINT...!?
CREAK

TURN
THE SHOCK WAS TOO GREAT... AND IT CURED HIS UNDER-WEAR PHOBIA...
THE OPPO-SITE EFFECT
S-SURELY NOT...
TOSHIO... SURELY YOU AND RUI...
HUH?
AH... AHHH ...!!
RUI...
WASN'T WEARING ANYTHING AT ALL...
AHH
TOSHIO, YOU HAVE TO FORGET EVERYTHING YOU JUST SAW!!
HYE HHH
NO [illegible] BOSS GOT TA SEE!!
YA ASS-HOLE !!
I GUESS OUR TIMING WAS OFF..
WA HH H
OH! IT'S PER-FECT. ♡
.....

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE FIVE BY ASSISTANT C



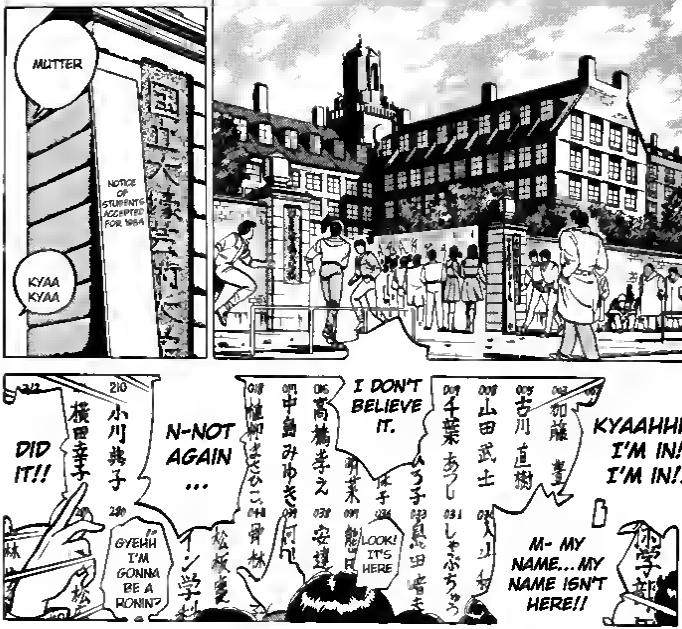


FOR
SOMEONE'S
SAKE...

IT'S... FINALLY HERE!!
THE DAY THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM RESULTS ARE POSTED.
SIGH
WHICH DIRECTION WILL MY LIFE TAKE? A MOMENTOUS DAY...
TODAY, YOU'LL SLIP!!
SLIDE!
CLATTER
TIME TO GO!!
AI! DON'T RUN!!

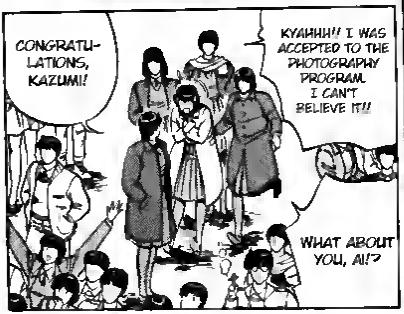
WHAT?
AT MY HOUSE THEY DON'T CONSIDER THE FEELINGS OF EXAM TAKERS AT ALL *
TODAY IS THE COLDEST DAY OF THE YEAR AND THE ROADS HAVE ICED OVER.
DIDN'T YOU SEE THE NEWS, DUMMY ?
SIS!!
IF YOU RUN YOU'LL SLIP...
NO... AT MY HOUSE IT SEEMS THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW THEY HAVE A STUDENT THAT'S TAKING EXAMS...
?
OH FINE!! IT'S NOTHING! I'M OFF!!
OH WELL. AT LEAST IT ALLOWS ME TO TAKE IT EASY AT HOME...
?
HOW MANY TIMES ARE GOING TO SAY "SLIP, SLIP, SLIP"!? SHEESH!!
JOLT!
HEY!! IF YOU KEEP RUNNING LIKE THAT YOU'LL SLIP AGAIN!!

*IN JAPANESE, "SLIPPING" IS A EUPHEMISM FOR FAILING AN EXAM.


MUTTER
NOTICE OF STUDENTS ACCEPTED FOR 1984
KYAA KYAA
KYAAHHH! I'M IN! I'M IN!!
M- MY NAME... MY NAME ISN'T HERE!!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
LOOK! IT'S HERE
N-NOT AGAIN ...
DID IT!!
GYEHH I'M GONNA BE A RONIN?
OH HH
KY AH
YOKO!!
I MADE IT, MOM!!
LOOK, DAD! IT'S THERE!!
WELL DONE, KENTA-RO!!

AI!!!!!!

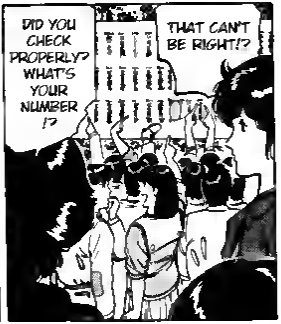
KYAH!
KYAH!
.....


CONGRATULATIONS, KAZUMI!
KYAHHH!! I WAS ACCEPTED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, AI!?

NO WAY
EH!?

HEYYYY. I'M GOING TO CALL HOME AND LET THEM KNOW!!!
HAH HAH! GOTCHA !!
WHAT'S WITH THAT OLD JOKE !?
DO YOUR BEST, EXAM-TAKERS !!

1265
AI KISUGI
EH !?


DID YOU CHECK PROPERLY? WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER !?
THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!?

LISTEN! LET US GO BEFORE YOU CALL YOUR BOY-FRIEND
HEY! HEY!
!?
HMM. SO YOU FINALLY CAME AROUND!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
AH... HELLO! MAMA!?
I GOT CARRIED AWAY!!
PAPAA. WHAT ABOUT YOUR JOB? EH? NO! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE PAPA.
I PASSED! OF COURSE. UH-HUH!!... EH? PAPA'S THERE TOO!?
PAPA... HUH...
WELL, SEE YA TONIGHT
EH? THANK YOU SO MUCH, PAPA. I LOVE YOU!!

AH... SORRY.
WHAT'S WRONG? IT'S YOUR TURN, AI!
SIGH
RING!
GASP!
CAT'S EYE
OH, IT'S YOU, AI!
OH! MR. TOSHIO?
HELLO!! CAT'S EYE!!
AH... HELLO
COMING! COMING! COMING!
COMING !!
WHERE ARE MY SISTERS?
HYEEE! HELP ME OUT HERE
!?
COMING !!
CLICK

OH WELL, I'LL TELL YOU THEN, MR. TOSHI...
HMMM
MORE COFFEE OVER HERE!
THEY'VE BEEN GONE AN HOUR. THEY SAID THEY NEEDED TO MAKE A QUICK SHOPPING TRIP.
I'M HERE BY MYSELF. I MAY HAVE TO CLOSE THE STORE. REALLY!
HURRY UP!
HEY
EH? I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY WENT.
CLICK
SHEESH. EVEN THOUGH IT'S THEIR SISTER'S IMPORTANT DAY!!
AH... WELCOME !!
THE VERNAL EQUINOX*!? THAT'S WHY SO MANY PEOPLE ARE HERE.
NO... TOSHIO !!
WAIT. DO YOU KNOW WHAT DAY IT IS TODAY?
P-PUT WAI...
MORE CUSTOMERS CAME IN!! I HAVE TO GO.
AH CHAAH-HH!!
OH NO! TODAY IS AI'S...
THE VERNAL EQUI-NOX...
HUH?
TOSHIO YOU DUMMY !!
JE EZ !!

*A HOLIDAY IN JAPAN

I'M HAVING LUNCH WITH MY DAD.
ME TOO! WHAT ABOUT YOU, KAZUMI?
UMMM
SAY, WHAT'S EVERYONE DOING NOW? YOU WANT TO GO HAVE COFFEE AT MY PLACE?
THEY'RE THROWING A PARTY FOR ME AT MY PLACE, SO
SORRY.
HMMM. I GUESS WE'LL DO IT ANOTHER TIME
SEE YOU AT GRADUATION!!
BYE...
SEE YA!!

MY FOLKS ON THE CONTRARY...!!
THAT'S NICE... THEY ALL HAVE PEOPLE THAT ARE HAPPY FOR THEM...
IF ONLY PAPA WERE HERE AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
COULD THEY REALLY NOT BE AWARE THAT I'M TAKING EXAMS!?
EVEN MR. TOSHIO CUT ME OFF ON THE TELEPHONE!!
.....
I'M GOING TO COLLEGE FOR MY OWN SAKE, NOT TO MAKE SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY!!
HMPH! I DON'T NEED ANYONE TO BE HAPPY FOR ME!!

EH? AT THIS HOUR?
CLOSED
I'M GOING TO COLLEGE FOR MY OWN SAKE, NOT TO MAKE SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY!!
I SEE! MY SISTERS ARE STILL OUT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MR TOSHIO?
AND IT WAS AI'S EXAM ANNOUNCEMENT DAY, TOO, Y'KNOW.
SNIFF SNIFF
I JUST CAN'T GET MYSELF MOTIVATED, Y'KNOW?
!?
THAT'S RIGHT FOR THEM, SO THEY CAN GO OFF AND PLAY!
THEY JUST USE ME LEAVING ME ALONE IN THE STORE

O-OH!! WELCOME HOME, AI!!
HUH? WHAT WAS THAT PHOTO YOU JUST HID?
EH? PHOTO? WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HA HA HA..
AH!! THAT'S RIGHT!!
SO HOW DID YOUR EXAM TURN OUT!?
TWITCH
!!
SURELY YOU DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE FAILED!!
I'M NOT LIKE YOU, MR. TOSHIO!!
TH-THAT'S HARSH HA HA..
HA.. HA HA!! THAT'S TRUE!! WELL CONGRATULATIONS!!
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER TO ME IF YOU'RE PLEASED
SQUEAK
I'M NOT GOING TO COLLEGE TO MAKE YOU PEOPLE HAPPY
SIT
EH?

I'M GOING TO COLLEGE FOR MY OWN SAKE, SO I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO NEEDS TO BE PLEASED
I'M NOT A LITTLE KID WHO'D GET UPSET OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
AH... I'M SORRY I HUNG UP ON YOU. THAT MUST BE WHY YOU'RE ANNOYED.

FLICK

TH-THAT'S NOT IT!!
YOU AREN'T BEING HONEST. YOU SHOULDN'T THINK THAT YOUR SISTERS DON'T CARE.
I DON'T HAVE ANY PARENTS EITHER. MY SISTERS MARRIED YOUNG...MY GRAMMA HADN'T TIME TO THINK OF ANYTHING BUT THE STORE.
...SO I'VE BEEN WHERE YOU ARE.
NO MATTER WHAT I DID, NO ONE SEEMED TO CARE.
HA...YOU LOOK JUST LIKE I DID AT YOUR AGE.
UMM...I... I GUESS...
AI, WERE THERE NO TIMES YOU PUT IN EXTRA EFFORT BECAUSE YOU KNEW IT WOULD MAKE YOUR SISTERS HAPPY?
BEING ABLE TO SEE THE GLAD FACE OF ANOTHER WHO IS SUPPORTING YOU CAN REALLY PICK UP YOUR SPIRITS!
OH WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT YOUR EFFORT IS MAINLY FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, BUT THAT CAN BE ROUGH REALLY!
LIFT

BUT BESIDES THEM, COULDN'T YOU STRIVE FOR THE SAKE OF SOMEONE ELSE?
I KNOW !!
TO GO OFF ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT DAY... I'M SURE THEY FORGOT I FEEL LIKE A FOOL!!
BUT I FEEL...BE TRAYED!
I WORK HARD FOR THE SAKE OF MY MOTHER. EVEN NOW.
ACTUALLY, SOMETIMES
WHAT ABOUT PAPA AND MAMA?
SOMEONE ELSE...
AI
YOUR MOTHER? BUT MR. TOSHIO...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? MY PARENTS ARE
O... KAY
EH?
THIS HAS TO BE OUR LITTLE SECRET!!
RAISE

THIS... IS THE PHOTO YOU WERE LOOKING AT EARLIER!!
THAT'S MY MOTHER ...
KYAA SUCH A CUTE LITTLE GIRL!?
WHEN I'M HAPPY, SHE SMILES GENTLY. IF I'M DOWN SHE LAUGHS AND TELLS ME TO BUCK UP...
WHENEVER I'M EITHER GLAD OR FEELING DOWN, I TAKE OUT THIS PICTURE AND TELL HER ABOUT IT.
OH, TOSHI-CHAN IS SEXY!!
.....
WILL YOU TRY TALKING TO IT?
AI, YOU MUST HAVE A PICTURE OF YOUR PAPA.
I FEEL LIKE I'M STRIVING FOR THE SAKE OF MY MOTHER.
AND WHEN I DO... MY SPIRITS SEEM REJUVENATED...
SO THAT'S WHY JUST NOW BY HIMSELF HE WAS...

OOF. UNCUTE ...
BUT AREN'T YOU A BIT ASHAMED AT YOUR AGE!?
I DON'T THINK I COULD DO IT
THANK YOU
I GUESS THIS GIRL IS YOUR OLDER SISTER...
.....
...THAT'S A BOY...
EH?
BUT...WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO HAVE A PICTURE OF HER WITH YOU?
YES... IT'S ME...
.....
S-SURELY NOT...
.....

K-KEEP THIS BETWEEN US. DON'T TELL ANYONE ELSE!!
COFFEE HOUSE CAT
BYD
KYAHHH HA HA HA HA!!
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
L-LITTLE FRILLS!!
OH DON'T BE CRABBY. YOU MUST BE HUNGRY!
HMPH
THE THEME OF TODAY'S CONVERSATION IS ALL THE BAD THINGS A YOUNGER SISTER HAS TO SAY ABOUT HER OLDER SISTERS!!
WHAT ?
WE'RE HOME!!
PHEW. THIS IS HEAVY!!
TOSHIO, WHERE'S AI?
YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN HOME SOONER!!
IN CONFERENCE WITH HER PAPA!

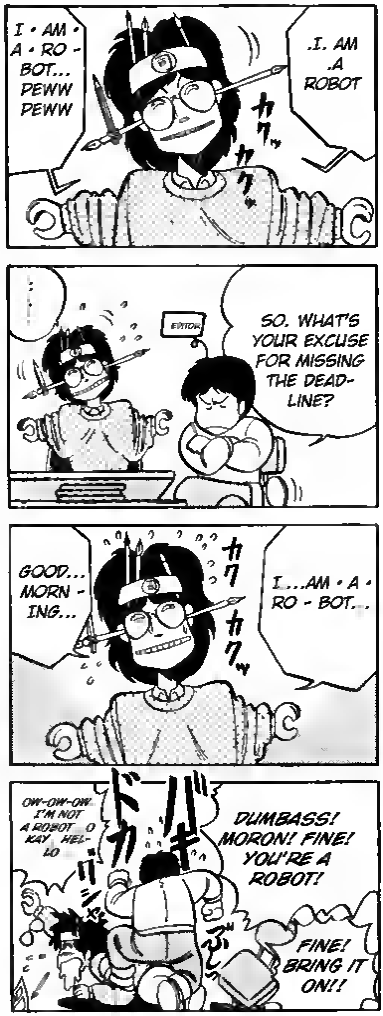
PAPA
ARE YOU EVEN A LITTLE BIT PLEASED?
YOUR YOUNGEST CHILD WILL BE A SPLENDID COLLEGE STUDENT UNDER-STAND?
I MADE IT INTO COL-LEGE..
PAPA ...
?
HEY
EVEN LEAVING AI OUT OF IT, I'M A BIT WORRIED...
JBS
STARTING TODAY THE NATIONAL UNI-VERSITIES BEGAN ANNOUNCING THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED
SHEESH!! I GUESS IT COULD BE MY SISTER!!

I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED THEY'D DO SOMETHING SO HEARTLESS...
I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER WHETHER GETTING MARRIED IS SUCH A GREAT IDEA...
KYAA! WAHH!!
HELLO! NOW WE WILL INTERVIEW SOME STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED
KYAH! WAH!
CONGRATULATIONS! HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
OH IT'S OUR SISTER WHO WAS ACCEPTED!
ARE YOU HER GUARDIANS?
AH...
AHHH
WOULD YOU LIKE TO OFFER WORDS OF CONGRATULATION TO HER?
THAT'S RIGHT AND SHE PASSED!!
TO AI!
YOU DID IT, AI!!
TA-DAH!!
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PARTY TONIGHT! PREPARE YOURSELF!!
AH... UM!!
WE KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!!
ARE YOU WATCHING, TOSHIO?

Congratulations, Ai!
If you are reading this, you have safely reached your entrance exam! We wanted to show you how happy we are for you. Well done! We always believed in you!
From your shy sisters
Hikari
Yu-Ai
WHAT'S THIS...
FLIP
HEYY
BA NZ AI!
AH..AH-HH THE MIC.
...THANK YOU...BOTH

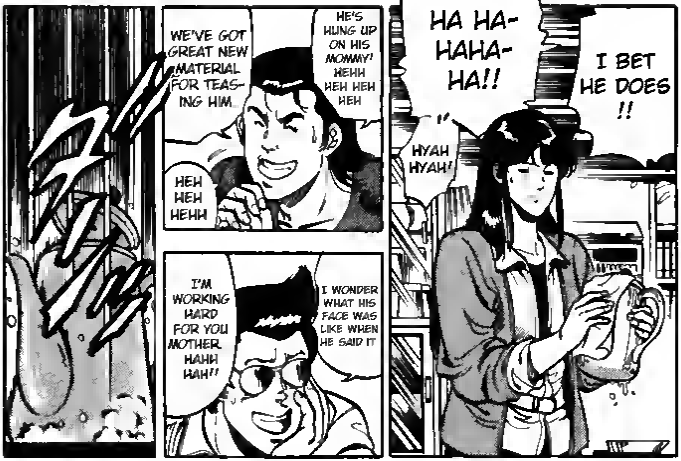
EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORK-PLACE

SCENE SIX BY ASSISTANT E



MY MOST
IMPORTANT
GIRL!

THAT TOSH IS A MOMMY-CON!! TELL THE TRUTH, AI!!
HYAH HYAH !!
AHHHH HA HA HAHAAA !!
I MADE A SAD FACE WITHOUT THINKING!!
HYAH HYAH !!
I CAN'T STAND IT
BOSS AIN'T WEENED YET!!
THAT TOSH!!
THAT'S WHAT HE DOES! TO THAT PHOTO OF HIS MOTHER!
MOTHER, I'M A COP NOW...
WILL YOU REJOICE JUST A LITTLE WITH ME?
DIA-PERS !!
STILL HAS ...?
COULD IT BE HE STILL HAS...?


AHHHH HA HA-HAHA-HA!!
I BET HE DOES!!
HYAH HYAH!
WE'VE GOT GREAT NEW MATERIAL FOR TEASING HIM.
HE'S HUNG UP ON HIS MOMMY! HEHH HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEHH
I'M WORKING HARD FOR YOU MOTHER. HAHH HAH!!
I WONDER WHAT HIS FACE WAS LIKE WHEN HE SAID IT

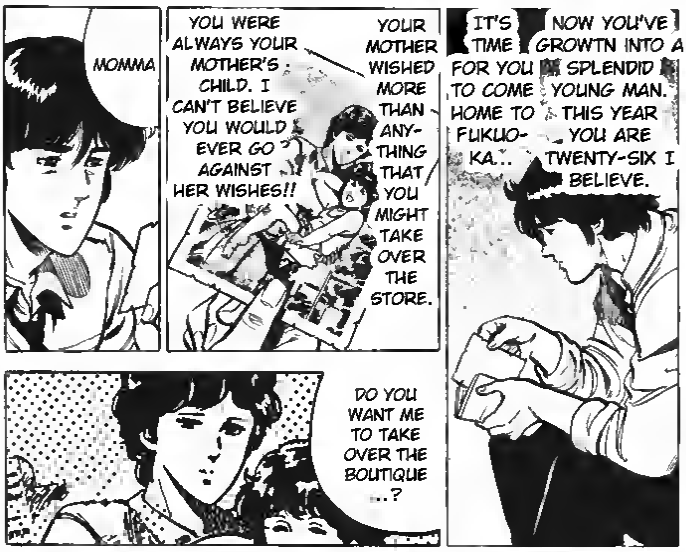
CAN'T YOU GIVE JUST A LITTLE THOUGHT TO TOSHIO'S FEELINGS!?
WH-WHAT IS IT HITOMI?
I WONDER HOW SLIGHT IT IS...
IF HE'S A BIT OF A MOMMYCON, IT CAN'T BE HELPED!!
WELL?
HIS MOTHER PASSED AWAY WHEN HE WAS VERY YOUNG.

I MEAN, FOR MR TOSHIO STILL TO BE STRIVING FOR THE SAKE OF HIS MOTHER!!
I MEAN, WHEN MR TOSHIO TOLD ME THAT, HALF OF ME ADMIRED HIM AND HALF WAS DISAPPOINTED IF TRUTH BE TOLD...
!?
I MEAN ABOUT THE MOMMY-CON...
BUT, SIS, AREN'T YOU JUST A LITTLE WORRIED?
WHY?
DOES THAT MEAN BOSS THINKS HIS MAMA IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HITOMI?
UH-HUH. THAT'S RIGHT. HE SHOULD STRIVING FOR HIS LOVER'S SAKE.
HE'LL END UP BREAKIN' UP WITH HER... OR HE'LL ALWAYS DO WHAT HIS MOMMA SAYS NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME PASSES...
SO... HE CAN'T HELP SEARCHIN' OUT ANY-THING ABOUT HIS GIRL THAT AIN'T LIKE HIS MAMA
SWEAT
A MOMMY-CON HOLDS HIS MAMA UP AS THE IDEAL WOMAN!!
THIS COULD BE A SEVERE CRISIS FOR THE TWO OF YOU!!
DON'T SAY WEIRD STUFF LIKE THAT, HIRANO!!
!!

.....
HE'D PROBABLY GO EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T WANT HIM TO, HITOMI...
SPEAKIN' O' TAKING OVER THAT SHOP, IF HIS MAMA WAS STILL ALIVE...
I LIKE OLDER GIRLS. I AIN'T FIXATED ON MY MAMA!!
SH-SHUT UP!!
THAT'S A MOMMYCON FOR YOU!! IT TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE!!
BUT HE ADMITS THE OLDER GIRLS!!
HUH!!
GAPE
!!
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!!
IT'S BASICALLY THE SAME THING!!
WHICH MEANS THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE TOSH COULD FALL FOR RUI!!
BUT HE HAS SEEN RUI IN HER UNDERWEAR.
WHADDAYA SAYIN!?
COFFEE
HA HA HA...
AH HA HA...IT'S JUST A JOKE! A JOKE!!
AI!!

SIGH
WEL-
COME
HOME,
TOSHIO.
AHH
...
AHH...
FSH
WOULD YOU
LIKE DINNER
OR BATH
FIRST...
HOW
ARE
YOU,
TOSHIO?
FLAP

SHE HITS WHERE IT HURTS!!
THAT OLD BAG... !!
AFTER ALL, THIS IS THE SHOP YOUR MOTHER START-ED...
I JUST TOOK IT OVER TO KEEP IT GOING UNTIL YOU WERE OLD ENOUGH.
.....
TOSHIO UTSUMI
I'VE WORKED SO HARD ALL THIS TIME SO THAT ONE DAY YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER..
HAVE YOU MADE UP YOUR MIND TO TAKE OVER THE BOU-TIQUE?


MOMMA
YOU WERE ALWAYS YOUR MOTHER'S CHILD. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WOULD EVER GO AGAINST HER WISHES!!
YOUR MOTHER WISHED MORE THAN ANY-THING THAT YOU MIGHT TAKE OVER THE STORE.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO COME HOME TO FUKUO-KA..
NOW YOU'VE GROWTN INTO A SPLENDID YOUNG MAN. THIS YEAR YOU ARE TWENTY-SIX I BELIEVE.
DO YOU WANT ME TO TAKE OVER THE BOUTIQUE ...?

SPACE
.....?
TOSHIO ...
HMMM
WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH YOUR LUNCH ALL OVER YOU?
HUH..?
TA-HAH ...
EH?
AH... AH... SORRY ...
WHAT ARE YOU SPACING OUT ABOUT? WHEN YOU'RE EATING, CONCENTRATE ON YOUR FOOD!
YOU'RE JUST LIKE A CHILD!!

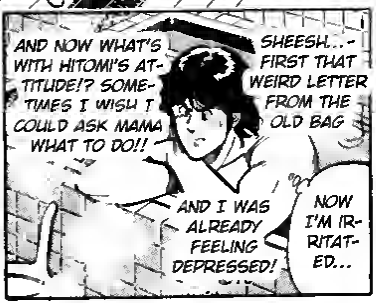
...MAYBE YOU CAN GET RUI TO SCRUB YOUR BACK LIKE YOUR MAMA DID!!
NOTHING... WHEN YOU FINISH, HURRY UP AND USE THE BATH!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

IT'S POSSIBLE HE'LL FALL FOR RUI.
A MAN WHO'S A MOMMYCON THINKS HIS MOTHER IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HIS LOVER.
AHHH! NOW I'M IRRITATED !!

WH-WHAT'S UP WITH HER...? HA HA HA.. HA HA
?

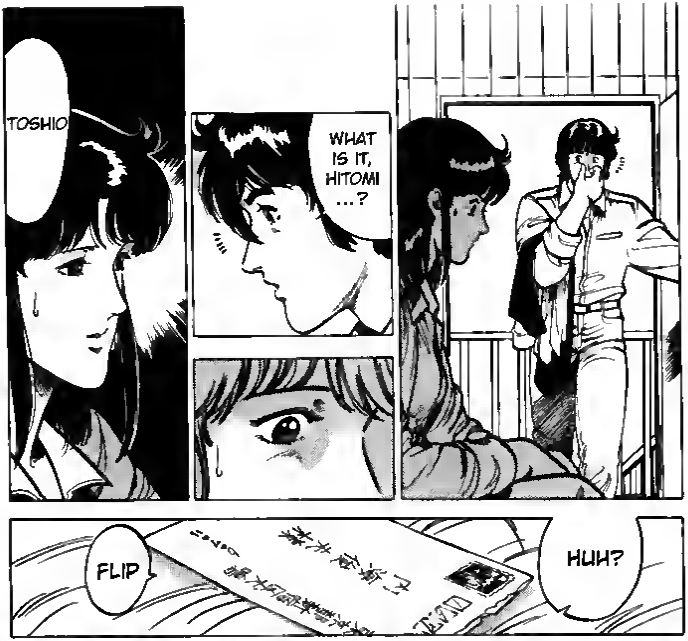
I'LL BE HAPPY TO SCRUB YOUR BACK... BOY!!

HITOMI? WHAT ARE YOU UPSET ABOUT !?


AND NOW WHAT'S WITH HITOMI'S ATTITUDE!? SOMETIMES I WISH I COULD ASK MAMA WHAT TO DO!!
SHEESH... FIRST THAT WEIRD LETTER FROM THE OLD BAG
AND I WAS ALREADY FEELING DEPRESSED!
NOW I'M IRRITATED...

SPLASH

KER-SPLASH!
WOULD LIKE ME TO SCRUB YOUR BACK FOR REAL?
AH...IT'S PERFECT, RUI.
TOSHIO, HOW IS THE WATER?
FLIP
...HE REALLY IS JUST A KID!!
SHEESH... SURELY HE COULD AT LEAST FOLD HIS OWN CLOTHES!!
A LETTER
FROM THAT GRANDMA!?
SNORT
AHHH. I GOT WATER UP MY NOSE!!
SNORT
SNORT
SNORT
SNORT
SNORT
CHAK


TOSHIO
WHAT IS IT, HITOMI ...?
FLIP
HUH?

H-HEY WE MAY BE LOVERS, BUT TO READ MY LETTERS
THAT'S RIGHT. I MAY BE YOUR LOVER, BUT I'M NOT IMPORTANT.
YOU WANT TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP, RIGHT?
EH ?
TH-THERE'S NO WAY I WANT TO DO THAT... DON'T TALK NONSENSE!
LIAR !!

QUIT RESISTING!! SURELY HONORING YOUR MOTHER'S WISH IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN A LOVER!!
JOLT
HITOMI... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I...
Y-YOU DON'T STRIVE FOR ME!! AND YOU DON'T CARE WHAT I WANT!!
NOT ME... BUT THAT PICTURE OF YOUR MOTHER !!
YOU SAY YOU STRIVE FOR HER SAKE!!
YOU STILL TALK TO HER PHOTO ...

IT'S AWFUL. SURELY IT'S NOT A COMPETITION!!
HITOMI...
YOUR MOTHER.. WHY YOUR MOTHER!?
OF ALL THINGS...TO LOSE TO A MOTHER WHO EXISTS ONLY ON A PHOTOGRAPH...
RUI OR ASATANI WOULD BE PREFERABLE !!
HITOMI
IS THAT ENOUGH ?
.....
TOSHI ...!!

A CHILD !!
Y- YOU ARE SUCH
KON
TOSHIO !!
YOU HAVE A CALL!!
IT'S YOUR
GRAND-MOTHER IN KYUSHU...

IDIOT...
HELLO
TOSHIO HERE...
TO FIGHT OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
EAVESDROPPING ON TOSHIO'S CONVERSATION!
I AM OF COURSE
PUNCH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
N-NO !!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT! NOT NOW...
I CAN'T ...

I KNOW THAT!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!! DID YOU READ THAT LETTER I SENT YOU!? THIS STORE WAS YOUR MOTHER'S...
!!
.....
DO YOU INTEND TO COMPLY WITH THE WISHES OF YOUR MOTHER, WHO WAS SO IMPORTANT TO YOU!?
THE PROMISE IS OVERDUE IT'S BEEN FIVE... NO SEVEN YEARS ALREADY!!
BUT I LIKE BEING A COP... AND...
I FEEL BAD ABOUT IT, BUT...
AND SHE'S BEEN WITH ME FOR A VERY LONG TIME...
THE THING IS, I HAVE A WOMAN MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN MOMMA...

SO I CAN'T TAKE OVER THE SHOP! PLEASE JUST GIVE UP ON THAT.
RIGHT NOW I'M STRIVING WITH ALL MY MIGHT FOR HER SAKE.
TOSHIO...
I SEE... I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS EXACTLY. AND GIVEN YOU FEEL THAT WAY...
UNYAHH! I MEAN TO CHANGE MY MODE OF ATTACK!!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING..
CLICK

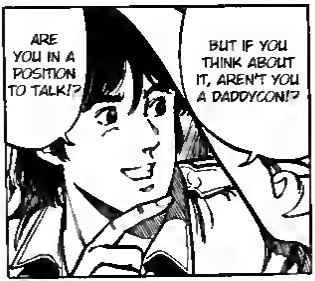
SO PLEASANT TO TALK WITH YOU, AS ALWAYS!!
DAMN OLD BAG!! WHAT IF YOU HAD BROKEN MY EAR-DRUM!?
ガチャーン!!
CLICK
KLAK

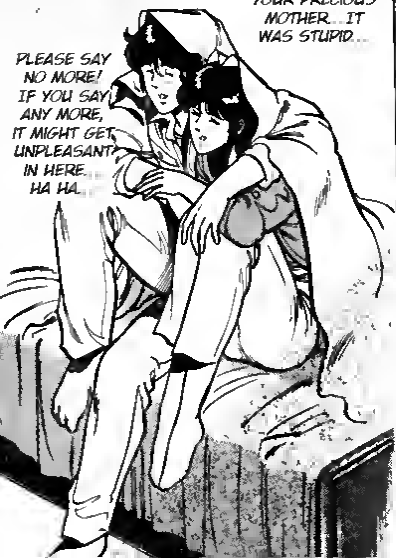
!!
EARLIER THEY WERE MAKING FUN OF ME FOR BEING A MOMMYCON
FLUFF

I JUST REFUSED TO GO...

?

...I'M SORRY, TOSHIO ...
...HITOMI


ARE YOU IN A POSITION TO TALK!?
BUT IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, AREN'T YOU A DADDYCON!?


TO THINK SUCH THINGS ABOUT YOUR PRECIOUS MOTHER...IT WAS STUPID...
PLEASE SAY NO MORE! IF YOU SAY ANY MORE, IT MIGHT GET UNPLEASANT IN HERE. HA HA...

BUT I'M SORRY...
OHH... I THINK THAT'S BETTER THAN BEING A MOMMY-CON!!

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE

SCENE SEVEN BY ASSISTANT D

THROWING DOWN
THE GAUNTLET!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? I'M CURIOUS ABOUT YOUR MOTHER, MR. TOSHIO
I MEAN, WHAT KIND OF MOTHER COULD GIVE HER SON A MOMMYCON?
JUST LET IT GO, WILLYA?
NO MAYBE ON THE CONTRARY SHE WAS REALLY STRICT...
COULD BE
MAYBE... I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER. I WAS SO YOUNG... BUT...
WHAT MIGHT SHE HAVE BEEN LIKE.
MY MOMMA ...
I'M SURE SHE WAS VERY SWEET
HER PICTURE STILL CONSOLES YOU!
KYA HA
BUT... WHAT?
BUT...

OOPS. THAT WAS CLOSE. I THINK I'LL BE GOING!
AL-READY?
STAY A LITTLE LONGER!
THE CAT HASN'T APPEARED IN AGES...YOU MUST HAVE PLENTY OF SPARE TIME!
THEY'VE BEEN KEEPING US REALLY BUSY LATELY HA HA HA.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
THE MAIN OFFICE HAS BEEN GETTING US TO HELP WITH THEIR INVESTIGATIONS.
MR. TOSH DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HIMSELF LATELY.
UMPH
YOU THINK SO TOO? HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE!!
I HATE WHEN HE'S LIKE THIS AND NOW IT'S SO STRANGELY QUIET AROUND HERE.
HMMM. SO THE QUIET IS GETTING ON YOUR NERVES, TOO.
ALL THE TWO OF YOU DO LATELY IS BICKER. THAT MUST BE THE REASON!

BUT IF YOU ARE IRRITATED AS WELL IT WILL REALLY DEPRESS MR. TOSHIO!
REALLY? THAT'S HOW IT LOOKS ON THE OUTSIDE.
THAT ISN'T TRUE!
.....
RUB
ISN'T IT YOUR DUTY AS A LOVER TO GET RID OF THE CAUSE OF THESE TROUBLES?
THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE RAT. AFTER ALL.
.....
どぅるぉ～～ん
SCRITCH
SCRITCH

IT'S BECAUSE HE HASN'T A PART FOR A WHILE. HE WANTS THE READERS TO NOTICE HIM.
.....
NO MATTER WHAT THAT GUY DOES, HE GOES ALL OUT

SINCE WHEN DID YOU GUYS BECOME THE OUTCASTS OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE!?
SHEESH THE LOT OF YOU IS COMPLETELY USELESS IS THIS REALLY THE CAT'S EYE SPECIAL UNIT!?
SHAPE UP!!

SINCE WHEN DID THE SPECIAL UNIT BECOME THE LACKEYS OF THE MAIN STATION? WHAT ABOUT INVESTIGATING THE CAT!?
TOSHI!! HOW COME YOU ARE PUTTING THE MAIN STATION'S DOCUMENTS IN ORDER?

IF WE DO NOTHIN' BUT SPACE OUT, THE REST OF THE STATION RESENTS US!
WE CAN'T HELP IT THE CAT HASN'T APPEARED LATELY....

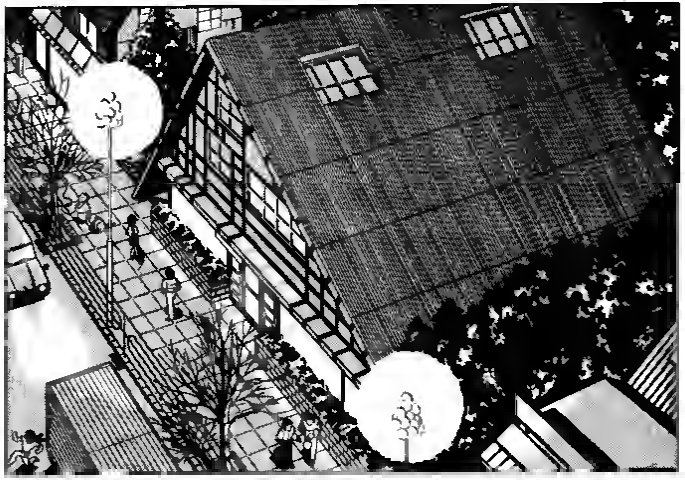
どろろぉ〜ん
SCRTCH
SCRTCH

UH..
UH..

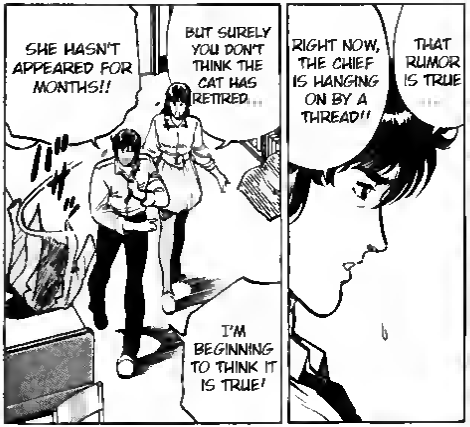
THOSE GUYS ARE JUST LIKE THAT ROOM. THEIR HEADS ARE FULL OF MILDEW!!
Coffee
I CAN'T WRITE ANY ARTICLES ON THAT!!
ALL I HEAR IS SARCASM, MR. BOSS-MAN...
AHHH HA HA HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT! YOU OUGHT TO COVER THE MAIN STATION SOME TIME. OCCASIONALLY WE'VE GOT GREAT MATERIAL
HELLO THERE, KAMIYA!
HOW GOES YOUR COVERAGE OF THE SPECIAL UNIT? WILL YOU BE WRITING A NICE ARTICLE?
UN-FORTU-NATELY
I ONLY FOLLOW THE CAT!
WE DON'T HAVE ANY DIRT ON THE CAT HERE IN THE MAIN STATION.
BUT I'VE GOT SOME ON THE SPECIAL UNIT!!
EH?
A RUMOR
DON'T SPEAK SO LOUDLY. THERE'S A RUMOR FLOATING AROUND UPSTAIRS
SOON, THE CAT'S EYE SPECIAL UNIT
WILL BE DISBANDED ...!!

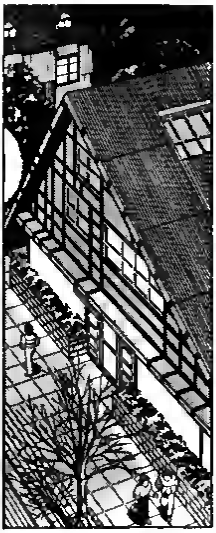
SHHHH!! TOO LOUD!!
HUH... THE SPECIAL UNIT DISB-...

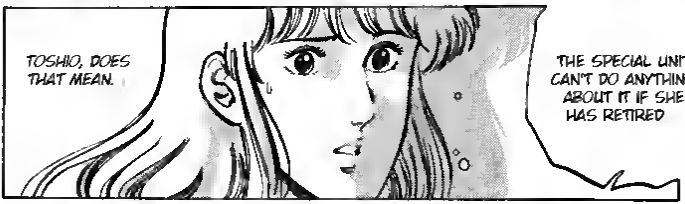
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY DIS-BAND IT!!
IF THAT'S RIGHT, THEN THE SPECIAL UNIT IS JUST DEAD-WOOD.
OF COURSE THEY HAVEN'T, BECAUSE THE CAT HAS DISAPPEARED!!
BUT WHY? THEY STILL HAVEN'T
PEOPLE THINK THE CAT MAY HAVE RETIRED.



DIS-BAND ED!?
NO WAY !!
IT'S ONLY NATURAL YOU GUYS HAVE RE-TIRED
THEY CAN'T DECIDE THAT ON THEIR OWN. TO THINK WE'VE QUIT!!
WE'RE JUST COLLECTING INFORMATION ON PAINTINGS RIGHT NOW!!
THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MORE PAINTINGS TO STEAL
THERE STILL ARE SOME!!
THERE CAN'T BE YOU'VE ALREADY GOT SO MANY
SHUT UP WHY RIGHT HERE IN TOKYO...
AH...
THAT WAS CLOSE.
LIKE I'D TELL THE COMPETITION ABOUT IT!!
HA HA HA DARN.
I THINK THE GUYS IN THE SPECIAL UNIT HAVE AN INKLING IT'S COMING
OH WELL WHY WORRY IT'LL JUST MAKE YOUR JOB EASIER!
.....

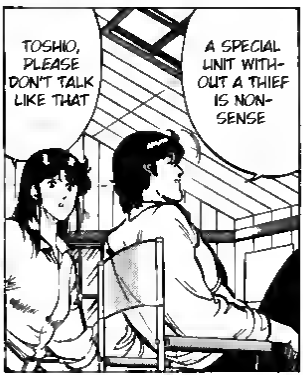

SHE HASN'T APPEARED FOR MONTHS!!
BUT SURELY YOU DON'T THINK THE CAT HAS RETIRED...
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK IT IS TRUE!
RIGHT NOW, THE CHIEF IS HANGING ON BY A THREAD!!
THAT RUMOR IS TRUE...



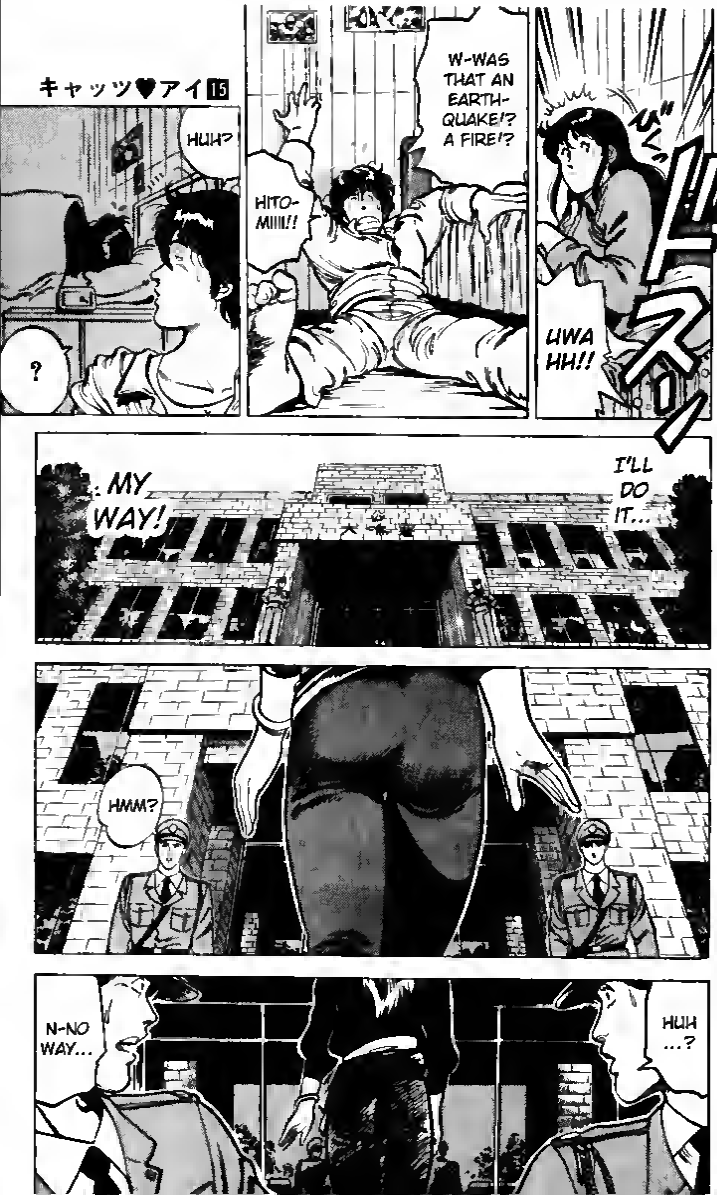

TOSHIO, DOES THAT MEAN...
THE SPECIAL UNIT CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT IF SHE HAS RETIRED

WELL THE CAT ISN'T THE ONLY WORK OUT THERE THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER THIEVES!

...ONE TIME YOU SAID THAT I WAS THE COOLEST WHEN I WAS CHASING THE CAT...


TOSHIO, PLEASE DON'T TALK LIKE THAT
A SPECIAL UNIT WITHOUT A THIEF IS NONSENSE

I SUPPOSE YOUR MOTHER KNEW PERFECTLY WELL...
DID SHE KNOW EXACTLY HOW TO GET YOU BACK ON YOUR FEET...?
...HOW CAN I HELP YOU AT A TIME LIKE THIS..."
DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT GOING TO QUIT BEING A COP
TOSHIO...
MAYBE SHE'D SAY SOME SOOTHING WORDS?
OR SOME HARSH WORDS...?
WH-WHAT AM I SO WORRIED ABOUT!? I'M NOT HIS MOTHER!!
I'M ME!! I'LL BUCK HIM UP MY WAY!!


HUH?
?
HITO-MIII!!
W-WAS THAT AN EARTH-QUAKE!? A FIRE!?
UWA HH!!
ドスン
MY WAY!
I'LL DO IT...
HMM?
N-NO WAY...
HUH ...?

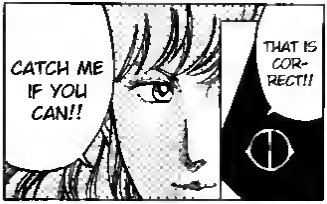
HA... HA HA. NO WAY THIS IS A POLICE STATION... BUT...
IS- IS THAT... THE CAT ...!?
?
!?
BUT
BUT SEE THAT GUY IS A MOMMY-CON IT'S A BIT OF A PAIN
HAIII!!
AH...
HAIII, MR KIZAKI
!!
I THINK I'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD LATELY... AH... MY HEAD HURTS.
THAT'S CRAZY! THIS IS A POLICE STATION!!
AH, NOW WHAT WAS I THINKING ABOUT
N- N- N- NO WAY! TH- TH- THIS IS...!!
WHAAAT !? THE CAT!!
...HUH?

BUT IT'S BROAD DAY-LIGHT
TO BRA-ZENLY WALK INTO A POLICE STATION
UMM... IS THAT GIRL CAT'S EYE?
SH-SHE'S CUUUUTE ♡
MORE
AND MORE
AND MORE
THERE SURE IS A FRIGHTFUL RUCKUS OUT THERE ?
WHAT IS IT?
A-AND IT'S GETTING CLOSER!
?

CAT ...
CA...
TH-THE...
HELLO. SO SORRY YOU HAD TO COME TO OUR SHABBY ROOM!
GOOD MORN-ING, HON-EYYY
DUMB ASS!!
WHAT AM I SAYING !?
CHATTER
LISTEN YOU!!
HOLLOW

A WRITTEN CHALLENGE TO THE SPECIAL UNIT !?
AN ANNOUNCEMENT NO

I WILL NOT BE TAKING ANYTHING THAT IS NOT ON THIS LIST.
THIS IS A LIST OF THE REST OF MY TARGETS !!


CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!!
THAT IS CORRECT!!

DAMN !!

STICK
CAT'S EYE
UH !?

QUIT MESSING WITH ME !!

CREAK
SUR-ROUND HER!!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS STAND-ING AROUND FOR!?
YOU WON'T ESCAPE THIS TIME, CAT!!
IDIOTS! YOU'VE GOT HER TRAPPED LIKE A RAT IN A BAG!!
CREAK

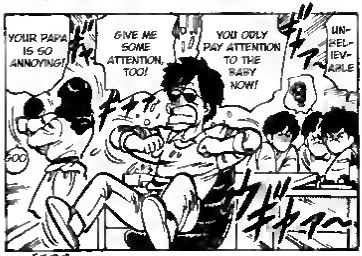
!!!!!
WHAT!?
I THINK I'LL CLEAN IT UP FOR YOU!!
EVERYONE WORKING HERE MUST HAVE MILDEW FOR BRAINS BY NOW
PHEW! THIS ROOM STINKS OF MILDEW. WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF ETIQUETTE? TO TRY TO ARREST ME HERE!
SNAP
OH!!
CRRREAAK
PHHT... STOP BEING A POOR LOSER. LET YOURSELF DOWN NOW WITHOUT ANY MORE FUSS, CAT!!

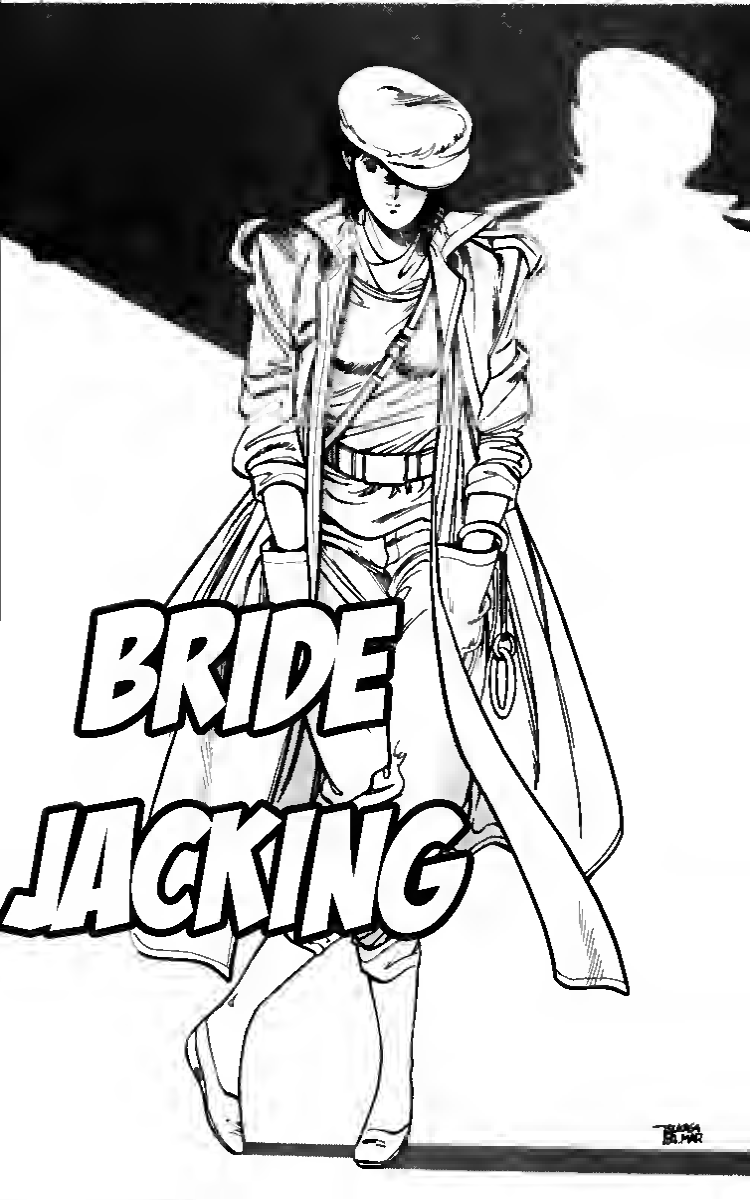
UWA HH AHH H!!
DO- AWA HHH !!
THE FL- FL- FLOOR !!
YOU CAN'T CATCH ME WITH A HEAD FULL OF MILDEW!!
YOU NEED TO CLEAN THAT OUT COM- PLETELY !!
STEP
THE...- FLOOR CAVED IN..
I DON'T THINK I CAN STAND UP!
KE KE KE
HA.. HA HA HA
SEE YA, HONEY. ♡
PHEW...
S- SURE..

OWA HHH
OH... I'M SO SORRY MR. KAMIYA.
NAH HA HA HA OH NO... IT'S FINE!
SHE THREW DOWN THE GAUNTLET AND ESCAPED!!
WHAT A MESS. THE CAT ACTUALLY CAVED IN THE FLOOR.
SO... LEMME HAVE A LOOK AT THAT LIST
CATS EYE
NO...IT WAS WHAT THE CAT SAID AS SHE LEFT...
ARE YOU THAT HAPPY THE DISBANDING WAS CANCELED?
H-HEY YOU'VE BEEN GRINNING FOR A WHILE NOW WHAT'S UP?
MY DAD GOT DESPERATE AND CLOSED THE SHOP AFTER THAT HE JUST SPACED OUT EVERY DAY ALL DAY LONG
IT WAS WHEN MY DAD WAS STILL ALIVE THERE WAS A RECESSION, AND NO MATTER WHAT HE DID THE BOUTIQUE STILL WAS DOING BADLY.
WHAT?
?
I REMEMBERED SOMETHING.

I'M SURE YOUR MOTHER TRUSTED YOUR FATHER TO GET BACK ON HIS FEET
SHE WHO HAD BEEN RAISED AS A PRINCESS HAD SCRUBBED HER HANDS TO THE BONE
AH
BUT REPAIRING THE SHOP IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU WEEP
HE WENT BACK TO THE HOUSE AND ASKED HER ABOUT IT. SHE ANSWERED, "SURELY WE CAN'T WORK IN A PLACE FULL OF MILDEW"
THAT WAS THE DAY HE NOTICED THAT HIS WIFE'S APPEARANCE WAS SO SHABBY
THEN AFTER A FEW MONTHS HE WORKED UP HIS NERVE TO LOOK INTO THE ABANDONED SHOP, BUT TO HIS SURPRISE IT WAS NOT A WRECK
EVERYTHING WAS IN METICULOUS ORDER... APPARENTLY MOMMA HAD BEEN KEEPING THE PLACE TIDY
UGH
CAT! TO SHOW MY GRATITUDE I'M GONNA TAKE YOU DOWN!!
BECAUSE THAT EXPRESSION IS BACK IN TOSHIO'S FACE!
OH, FINE POUR.
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH THIS LADY KILLER!?
LIKE YOUR MOMMA, HUH
TODAY THE CAT RISKED HER LIFE AND I WONDER IF IT WAS FOR MY SAKE
NOT REALLY!
ARE YOU JEALOUS, HITOMI BABY? HMMMM?
HEH HEH HEH

EIGHT SCENES FROM THE WORKPLACE
SCENE EIGHT BY TSUKASA-CHAN




BRIDE
JACKING

MY LOVE IS PARANOIA
IT ALWAYS LEAVES BAD TASTE, FOR SURE
CIC VIDEO
Five Ha
ISN'T THAT TOSHI?
HUH?
OR RATHER !!
EH-HEH I'VE GOT NOTHING BETTER TO DO. I'LL RIB HIM!!
HMM LOOKS LIKE HE'S WAITING FOR SOMEONE A DATE?
LOOK AT THAT!!

RUB
!!
SNUB
HUH !?
WH-WHAT?
WHAT'S WITH THE DARK VIBE!?
I GUESS THOSE TWO ARE FIGHTING AGAIN...

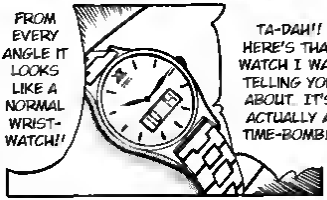
NOPE...
OH WELL... NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...
COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY'VE DONE NOTHING BUT BICKER EVER SINCE THEY STARTED SHARING A BEDROOM.
I GUESS IT MAKES SENSE WHEN YOU SPEND THAT MUCH TIME AROUND SOMEONE, ALL THEIR IRRITATING FEATURES GET ON YOUR NERVES!!
WAIT A SEC!...
THIS COULD BE THE PERFECT CHANCE FOR ME TO NAB HITOMI!!!
STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT!!
M-MIKKO...
H- HELLO THERE... AHA... AHA AHA
は〃ん

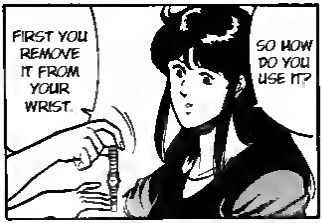
* A JAPANESE DRAMA FROM 1979
KAMIYA!!
WELL, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU...
I DON'T WANNA, BUT SHE CAUGHT ME!
OH... OH SURE ...
BUTA SHIGEO
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO TALK WITH ME FOR A MINUTE?
ALL THESE REFUSALS ARE WEARING ME OUT.
I'VE ALREADY SAID NO THIRTY FIVE TIMES
ANOTHER MARRIAGE MEETING?
I SEE.
HMMM
STARE
I FEEL LIKE IT'S RUDE TO THE MATCH-MAKER TO REFUSE SO MANY TIMES... AND APPARENTLY THE GUY LIKES ME...
I BET SO
CASIOPA
COFFEE SHOP
ULP
THEN THAT'S OKAY, ISN'T IT
LIKE A!
WH-WHAT!? HEY!
M-MEASURE UP!?
LISTEN BUDDY! WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'M SO PLAGUED WITH DOUBTS!? YOU HAVEN'T MEASURED UP!!

.....
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD EVER UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS!!
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE JUST A PLAYER, RIGHT!!
FINE! I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRIED TO TALK WITH YOU!!
SHEESH. WHO DOES HE THINK STOLE MY FIRST KISS!!
WHY IS IT I HAVE TO BE IN LOVE WITH THAT GUY!!
HOW COULD I EVER HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HIM...!?
SLAM
I SEE !!
ASATANI IS STILL IN LOVE WITH TOSHI, THAT'S WHAT SHE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT
SHE WANTS SOMEHOW TO GET TOSHI TO LOOK HER WAY
BUT SHE SURE IS A PAIN IN THE BUTT
PHEW !!
WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'M SO PLAGUED WITH DOUBTS!?
I'VE GOT IT!! COPS SHOULD BE WITH COPS AND THIEVES SHOULD BE WITH THIEVES!!
LEAVE THIS TO ME!!
UMM. COULD YOU KEEP IT DOWN, SIR.
!!

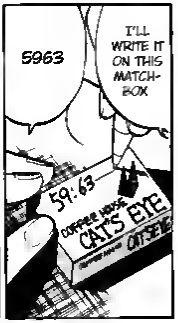
翌日
よくじつ

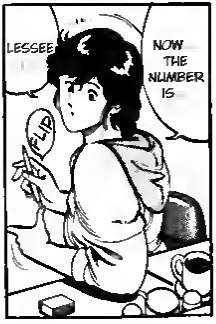
IT ONLY WORKS WHEN THE CLASP IS CLOSED.
THEN, AFTER YOU CLOSE THE CLASP IT STARTS WORKING FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER. KA-BLAMMO!
IF YOU WANT TO AVERT THE EXPLOSION, YOU HAVE TO ENTER THE SECRET CODE NUMBER INTO THE DIGITAL DISPLAY.


FROM EVERY ANGLE IT LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL WRIST-WATCH!!
TA-DAH!! HERE'S THAT WATCH I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT. IT'S ACTUALLY A TIME-BOMB!!


FIRST YOU REMOVE IT FROM YOUR WRIST.
SO HOW DO YOU USE IT?

GOT IT.
I WONDER HOW IT WORKS.
IF YOU CLOSE THE CLASP BY MISTAKE, PUT IN THESE NUMBERS, OKAY?
CAREFUL! IT MAY BE SMALL, BUT IT PACKS A POWERFUL PUNCH!!


5963
I'LL WRITE IT ON THIS MATCH-BOX
59:63
CAT'S EYE


LESSEE...
NOW THE NUMBER IS...
FLIP

CLICK
準備中
SIS, I THINK I'LL GO OUT FOR A WHILE.
OH, WELCOME ASATANI.
SEE YOU LATER MISS ASATANI.
OH... REALLY?
WHAT IS IT? YOU LOOK DOWN.
AHH HHH !!
EH!! YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE MEETING!?
NICE WEATH-ER!!

ISN'T THERE ANY MAN THAT YOU LOVE?
SIGH
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? HOW CAN YOU MARRY A MAN YOU DON'T LOVE!?
APPARENTLY, AS SOON AS HE'S MARRIED HE'LL TAKE OVER HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS
ALL MEN ARE THE SAME
HA... HA HA. HERE'S A MATCH...
IF THERE WERE, I'D HAVE HIM...
A GUY LIKE THAT...
NO WAY YY!!
AH... NO MATCH THERE'S NO MATCH!
HUH?
THAT GUY...
BUT NO SUCH MAN EXISTS... THAT GUY IS COMPLETELY UNRELIABLE
.....
FUUU

IS COM-PLETELY UNRE-LIABLE...!!
EH-HEH, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME.
AH. I HAVE TO GO!
I'M TAKING THESE MATCHES...
PUT
LISTEN! IF YOU DON'T LIKE HIM YOU ABSOLUTELY MUST REFUSE!!
THANKS
.....
CLATTER
HALLOO, MIKKO BABY!
OHH... MR. KAMIYA
HEH HEH HEH... FEELING FINE?
WHAT!? IT MUST BE NICE TO LOAF AROUND ALL AFTERNOON INSTEAD OF WORKING!!
STEP
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING! I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE ON THAT LITTLE MATTER YOU DISCUSSED WITH ME YESTERDAY!!

DOES HE EVEN UNDERSTAND THE WORDS THAT COME OUT OF HIS OWN MOUTH!?
HMPH!! COMPLETELY UNRELIABLE!!
SO DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT A THING AND GO ON OFF TO YOUR MARRIAGE MEETING!!
HUH ...?
NOW... NOW, NOW!! LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS EXAAACTLY!
EH?
EHH !!

.....

WH-WHAT, RAT BOY?
PU-PUHA HA!
MISS HITOMI..
FUU ...
HUH?
FUU.. I CAN SEE THE TEARS BEHIND YOUR SMILING FACE.
THERE'S NO NEED TO HIDE IT, HITOMI.
ARE YOU STILL ASLEEP? THE WASH BASIN IS OVER THERE.
PHEW!
A THIEF CAN ONLY BE WITH ANOTHER THIEF!
PHEW
NOW C'MON.. PLEASE TAKE THIS BOUQUET.
S-STILL ASLEEP
THEY CAN NEVER UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER !!
THAT'S RIGHT THERE'S NO WAY THINGS COULD EVER WORK OUT BETWEEN A COP AND A THIEF.
WHAT?
SHOCK
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO USE FORCE.
FU.. HEH HEH HEH SUCH A HARD HEART.

HI T-O-MII !!
WHAT . WHAT IS IT, RAT BOY!?
QUIT RESISTING. I KNOW THINGS ARE GOING BADLY BETWEEN YOU TWO.
IT'S THE PERFECT CHANCE TO BREAK UP WITH THAT COP.
HEY, WAIT !!
I CAN'T UNDER-STAND A WORD YOU ARE SAYING!!
CLUNK
GASP
HITOMI BAAAABY !!
KYAHH
SLIDE
GU...
WH-WHAT DISHYA SHDOO, HISHOMI..
I SET THE TIME BOMB!

A-ANOTHER BAD JOKE,. HUH?
OF COURSE IT WON'T. IT'S ONE OF AI'S GADGETS
IT WON'T COME OFF ..?
WHY YOU!!
THIS THING!
THAT'LL LET YOUR HEAD COOL FOR A WHILE.
HEHEHE YOU'RE CLEARLY LYING!
OH, YOU HAVE TIME FOR THAT?
BEFORE FIFTEEN MINUTES WE'LL NEED TO ENTER THE NUMBER ON THIS MATCHBOX.
EH?
THIS MATCH-BOX. EH? EHH?!!
IT'S GONE!? NO MATCHBOX !?
WHERE IS IT!? WHAT HAPPENED!?
THE MATCHBOX IS GONE!
THE SECRET CODE IS WRITTEN ON IT. IF WE DON'T ENTER THAT NUMBER INTO THE DIGITAL DIS-PLAY BEFORE FIFTEEN MINUTES HAVE ELAPSED, THE WATCH WILL EXPLODE!!
SAY. IS THIS REALLY THE REAL THING?
KYAH! ♡
WH- WH- WH- WH- WH- WHAT DO I DO!?
ONLY AI KNOWS THE CODE
HEY! TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY!
AH..
ASATANI!! ASATANI TOOK THE MATCHES!!

ASA-TANIII!!
UOHHH!
NO IDEA... I GUESS AT HER MARRIAGE MEETING..
ASATANI? WHERE IS SHE!?
SIGH
TANI!!
ASA...
RAT BOY!!
WHERE ARE YOU ASA-TANIIII!!
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
HUH?

GEH!!
ASA-TANI !?
WHERE IS MIKKO?
H-HEY. HOW WOULD I KNOW!? LET GO! PEOPLE ARE NOTICING!!
YOU'VE GOTTA KNOW!! YOU'RE BOTH COPS, RIGHT!!
D-DUM BASS!!
YOU'RE ON A STAKE-OUT, RIGHT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
MY BODY IS ABOUT TO BLOW APART!!
ANYWAY, I DON'T KNOW. MOVE ALONG OVER THERE!!
DAMN !!
MIKKO-HHHH!!
ASSHOLE. HE'S RUINED OUR STAKE-OUT!!
.....

XXOXA XOAAXX OOXX...
OOOXA AOXOAXX
COME BACK HERE!!
M- M- MIKKO- HHH!!
OA HHH !!
THIS GUY LIKES TO HEAR HIMSELF TALK.
SHEESH
DAMN! THAT IDIOT KAMIYA...
WHAT HAP- PENED TOSH!!
HOH HH
WHERE IS HER MAR- RIAGE MEET- ING?
PHOO WHERE IS MIK- KO?
PH OO
PH OO
KAMIYA IS NO LONGER HUMAN?
HE RUINED OUR STAKE- OUT!?
THAT NUMB- SKULL ...
THE GRAND HOTEL ...
GU ..
...THE GRAND HOTEL
THE RESTAU- RANT AT...

MIK-KOHHH !!
FULL SPEED
COME BACK HERE, ASS-HOLE!!
グランドホテル
HUFF ...
HUFF
HUFF ...
I F-FOUND ...
よろ。
MEN SHOULD BE MORE RESERVED !!
I CAN'T STAND A GUY WHO SEEMS LIKE HE WAS BORN FROM A MOUTH.
I GUESS THERE'S NO HELPING IT...
SIGH.
IF THIS MAN AND MIKKO
MIKKO-HHH!!
STARE

KA...
MR. KAMIYA...
WAIT RIGHT THERE, YOU INTRUDER! MISS MIKKO AND I ARE...
COME HERE, MIKKO!!
I...
MISS ASATANI
QUI VER
WILL YOU SHUT UP ALREADY!!
EXPLOSION PUNCH
THAT'S THE MAN!
I LIKE HIM!
SHIVER

SO...
SO THAT'S IT... KAMIYA...
.....
MR KAMIYA... WHY...
OH... WELL... BECAUSE I NEED YOU...
EH!!
I'M SO HAPPY !!
I'VE LOVED YOU EVER SINCE YOU KISSED ME.
HA HA HA. IS THAT RIGHT AND I SUDDENLY
5...
9...
6...
3...
PING!
PHEW ...
FRONT
OH, NO...
SHOP

SO RAT BOY JUMPED TO CONCLUSIONS!!
WHEN TOSHI BRUSHES HIS HAIR LIKE THIS, IT'S A SIGN THAT HE'S ON A STAKEOUT AND THAT I SHOULD IGNORE HIM
SO RAT BOY THOUGHT THINGS WERE BAD BETWEEN YOU.
HUH HH
I CAN'T SPEAK TO HIM THEN.
RIGHT... IT MUST BE BECAUSE TOSHI WAS ON A STAKEOUT.
WILL HE REALLY MARRY HER..?
STILL, WHAT WILL HE DO NOW?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FELL SO HARD FOR HER!
MR. KAMIYA, PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY DAUGHTER...
HAPP... EN?
HUH?
OH, WELL!
HOW DID THIS ...?
IT WAS JUST LIKE THAT MOVIE "THE GRADUATE!"
KAMIYA!! YOU DID ALRIGHT!!

Collection No.69 **CAT'S EYE**

A VERY LONG DAY

CLICK
I W- WANT TO M- MARRY HER UM
I TH- THINK YOU MET THIS GIRL ONE TIME ON A VISIT TO TOKYO, GRANDMA.
A-AND AFTER THAT THERE'S ANOTHER REASON I CAN'T LEAVE TOKYO
SO WHAT I'M SAYING IS I WON'T LEAVE TOKYO UNTIL I'VE CAUGHT THE CAT!
H- HER NAME IS HITOMI
HEH HEH
AGH!!
YOU CALLED, TOSHIO?
URGK!
SHE'S A REALLY NICE GIRL AND PRETTY, EVEN IF IT'S ME SAYING IT
AND AFTER WE'RE MARRIED SEE
JEEZ, WHY AM I EMBARRASSED?
WHAT?
SO ANYWAYS, HITOMI!!!
THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING!

WAS THERE SOME-THING YOU...?
OH, HA HA, IT'S NOTHING!
KLAK
I KNOW! I KNOW!
SURE, SURE!!
AH, MR. TOSHIO. MR. SHIGE IS.
GRIN
OH, THAT REMINDS ME I ASSUME WE ARE STILL ON FOR OUR DATE TONIGHT!!
OH, I SEE
UH-HUH SHIGE IS DOWN-STAIRS
IS THE MIC THAT TAPE??
SO?
FORGET THAT, SIS. THE OTHER DAY YOU GAVE MR. TOSHIO OUR TARGET LIST, RIGHT!!
SHEESH. EVEN THOUGH HE PROMISED LAST NIGHT AND THEN STOOD ME UP.
THAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIG FIGHT IN A WHILE I EAVES-DROPPED AND LAUGHED THROUGH THE WHOLE THING SAY, DO YOU WANNA LISTEN TO THAT TAPE HE JUST MADE?
EHH. NO WAY!!
THE OWNER OF THE PAINTING WE ARE AIMING FOR THIS TIME WAS TIPPED OFF BY THE POLICE THEY'VE CHANGED THE SECURITY SYSTEM!!
SO GUESS WHAT HAP-PENED!!
A-AI!! SINCE WHEN DID YOU...?
AFTER ALL THAT TROUBLE TO CHECK IT OUT. NOW WE HAVE TO DO IT OVER!!
CLICK

HITOMI!!
COULD YOU HAND ME MY COAT. WHEN ASATANI GETS HERE WE'RE GOING OUT
SURE, SURE BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO DELAY NABBING IT SHEESH. IT'S THE LAST THING I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED FROM CAT'S EYE!!
OH WELL, THAT'S OKAY WE'LL JUST CHECK IT OUT AGAIN!
SHH!!
EH... UMM THE TAPE WHERE IS THAT TAPE
YOU WON'T BE LATE TONIGHT, I HOPE.
PUNCH
I'M SUCH A SCAT-TERBRAIN
SST
HUH?
IT WAS RECORD-ING!!
S-SAY, TOSHIO. WHAT IS THAT TAPE?
OH... THANKS!
KER-CHAK
OH THIS?
I WANT TO SEND IT TO GRANDMA!

OH NO NO WAY!
SO LET ME MAIL IT FOR YOU!
HEY
OH... WHAT A NICE IDEA... HA HA HA.
IF I CALL THE STORE SHE'LL PROBABLY GIVE ME WHAT FOR WRITING A LETTER IS A PAIN, SO I MADE HER A TAPE INSTEAD.
OUR CONVERSATION IS ON THERE! WH- WHAT DO WE DO!?
TH- THIS IS TER-RIBLE!!
BYE
I NEED TO LISTEN TO IT AGAIN...
AH... TOSHI...
I MAY NEED TO REVISE IT!!
I THOUGHT WHILE THERE AREN'T ANY CUSTOMERS...
UH-HUH
HMMM. SO THIS TAPE IS A LETTER
WHAT DO WE DO? WE GET IT BACK!!
CATS EYE

YOU'RE GOING TO LISTEN BY YOURSELF WITH EAR-PLUGS?
OF COURSE IT'S EM-BARRASS-ING
YOU TWO?
WHAT'S THE RUCKUS !?
SIS!
EH?
LET ME LISTEN, TOO, TOSHIO
N- NO!!
HUSH AN! GIVE ME AN EAR-PLUG!
EH!!
O- ON THAT TAPE!!
YOU'RE KINDA CHINTZY, AREN'T YOU
SIS, WE'VE GOT TO SWITCH THAT TAPE SOMEHOW BEFORE HE HEARS IT
TH- THERE'S NO WAY, HITOMI!!

UH-HUH IN THE MEAN-TIME, RUI...
THE TWO OF US WILL DISTRACT THEM.
OK!!
CLICK
B-BUT IF WE DON'T HURRY... AH, AHHHH!!
I'LL REVISE IT FOR YOU!!
NO THAT'S ALRIGHT.
WE'D HAVE TO DO IT UNDER MR. SHIGE'S NOSE HIS SPECIALTY IS CATCHING PICKPOCKETS !! HE'S A PRO IMPOSSIBLE!

WE'RE STILL ON FOR OUR DATE TONIGHT, RIGHT!!
SAY
HUH?
SAY, MR. SHIGE THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

WELL, SIS ..!!
DO IT RIGHT
YOU AREN'T GOING TO BE OUT LATE ON A STAKEOUT LIKE YOU WERE LAST NIGHT?
AH, AHHH. ABOUT THAT...
I HAVE A FRIEND WHO HAS BEEN TRYING TO FIND AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE...

SORRY TO KEEP YOU TWO WAITING.
HEY!!
W-WEL-COME, MISS ASATANI!!
YOU'RE EARLY!

TOO BAD!!
IF WE'D JUST HAD A COUPLE MORE SEC-ONDS!!
SH EE SH
HEHH? A TAPE... I'LL HELP YOU REVISE IT, TOO
YOU SAY THAT, BUT EVERYONE WILL HEAR MY VOICE
NONSENSE THERE AREN'T ANY CUSTOMERS RIGHT NOW. PUT IT ON FULL VOLUME!!
NO WAY!
WORSE AND WORSE...

F-FINE!!
HERE I GO!!

FINE THIS TIME'S FOR REAL!!
HMM. AFTER FIVE SECONDS THE SOUND COMES OUT
WHAT IS IT?
NOTH-ING!!
I CAN'T HEAR IT!
AH.. I DIDN'T REWIND IT...
PRESS
!?
AH... !!
EH!?
WAHH THERE IS A GOD! ♡
AH... WELCOME !!
OH..?
CLATTER

TH-...
YOU SHOULD HAVE LET ME KNOW YOU WERE COMING!!
WHY THAT MONSTER VOICE?
GRAND -MA!!
GR-...
THERE IS A GOD...
HEHH!!
EHH YOU'RE MR. TOSHIO'S GRAND-MOTHER?
EH!!
HITOMI, PUT THIS BACK WHERE IT BELONGS!
TH-THAT'S RIGHT
NOW THAT GRANDMA IS HERE, I DON'T NEED IT
ほ～～～...
.....

TOSHIO, SIT YOURSELF RIGHT DOWN HERE BESIDE ME. I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!
AH... THE THING IS I HAVE TO GO TO...
HUSH IT WON'T TAKE ANY TIME.
I HAVE TO GO TO A STAKEOUT NOW
I'LL TALK TO YOU AFTER-WARDS!!
WHEN WILL YOU RETURN?
AT THE EARLI-EST... ELEVEN, I SUP-POSE.
HMPH. I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU.
EH!?
ELEVEN !!
TOSHIO, YOU SAID ELEVEN, BUT WE HAVE A DATE TO-NIGHT!
OH, CRAP!!
STARE
ULP!
WELL, I'LL BE GOING NOW.
ENJOY YOUR-SELVES!!

IT'S COFFEE
WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M DRINKING RIGHT NOW?
TH-THAT'S RIGHT!! AH. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COFFEE?
YOU'RE HITOMI, RIGHT? I MET YOU ONCE BEFORE AT TOSHIO'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY!!
DAMN
HMM?
AH...
YES...
YOU CAN LEAVE MY LUGGAGE THERE THE SHOP IS BUSY
UMM
YOU HAVE SOME TROUBLE SPEAKING, DON'T YOU
UMM ...
AH...
OH I'M SO SORRY PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE!!
LISTEN HOW MANY CUPS OF COFFEE DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DRINK. ?
AH. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COFFEE?
UMM

UH-HUH SHE MAKES ME NERVOUS SOMEHOW...
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE EVER SINCE GRANDMA GOT HERE...
RUI...
WHAT IS IT, HITOMI?
PHEW!
CLUNK
BUT, SEE. I MADE A BAD IMPRESSION THE LAST TIME...
I KNOW THAT...
YOU SHOULD JUST ACT NORMAL DON'T TRY TO MAKE YOURSELF LOOK GOOD...
AND TOSHIO SAYS...
SHE'S MORE IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT HIS MOTHER...
SHE'S SUCH A QUIET GIRL... JUST LIKE SHE WAS BEFORE...
SO I FEEL LIKE I HAVE TO SHOW HER MY GOOD SIDE...
EH!?
I FEEL SO STUPID!!

A QUIET GIRL LIKE THAT WON'T DO!!
I WANT A DAUGHTER WHO IS MORE STEAD-FAST...
SHE DIDN'T SAY A WORD...
THE FIRST TIME I MET HER SHE JUST STARED AT ME...
BESIDES YOU, SIS, I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH OLDER WOMEN...
THE THING IS...
IT WASN'T SO MUCH LIKE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GRANDMOTHER AND GRAND-SON
THE TIME BEFORE IT SEEMED LIKE THEY GOT ALONG REALLY WELL
THAT'S NOT ALL! TOSHIO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS GRAND-MOTHER
SO YOU JUST STOOD THERE WITH-OUT SAYING A WORD!?
LIKE ONLY THE TWO OF THEM WERE THERE...
MORE LIKE TWO GOOD FRIENDS...
SEEMS A BIT STRANGE TO ME...

I DIDN'T FEEL I COULD INTERRUPT THEM AND ENDED UP JUST STARING
SO I THINK I MADE A BAD FIRST IMPRESSION
BUT IF YOU DON'T ACT NORMALLY, SHE MAY SAY SHE DOESN'T NEED A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW LIKE YOU!
I KNOW THAT!!
I KNOW IT, BUT ...
.....
I'M HOME!
OH! YOU'RE EARLY
UH-HUH WE WRAPPED UP UNUSUALLY EARLY
BY THE WAY, WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THAT TAPE FROM THIS MORNING?
HUH? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH IT?
WELL, I'M A BIT NERVOUS TELLING HER DIRECTLY ABOUT MY WEDDING PLANS
SO... I WAS THINKING I'D HAVE HER LISTEN TO THE TAPE!!
AI, THE TAPE
OK!
IT'S FINE I ERASED OUR CONVERSATION

HUH?
AI, JUST A SEC'
SURE!!
THEN I'LL GO FETCH GRANDMA TO LISTEN TO IT
ACTUAL-LY.....
WHAT, SIS?
OKAY, IT'S READY !!
CLICK
ROGER !!
READY, AI
PRESS HERE
SHEESH WHAT'S HE THINKING?
PLEASE JUST LISTEN!!
WHAT'S WITH THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN...
TAKO
ONCE YOU HEAR IT, YOU'LL UN-DERSTAND

.....
CLICK
SAY, LASS, DO YOU MIND LETTING EVERYONE HEAR?
KU... THIS IS GREAT!
KU KU KU KU...
KU...KU KU KU KU...
WHAT IS IT, GRANDMA?
?
CLANK

BUT WHAT!? I GO OUT, MAKE PREPARATIONS, THEN WAIT AROUND FOR TWO HOURS? WHICH IS WORSE!?
YOU SAY THAT, BUT...
I KNOW THAT. BUT AT LEAST YOU COULD MAKE ONE PHONE CALL!! TO SAY, "I HAVE TO WORK!"
WHAT DID YOU SAY, HITOMI!? I HAVE TO GO TO WORK! IT CAN'T BE HELPED!!
SLIP!
WE DID IT!
LEAP
YAP YAP YAP YAP!!
SHADD-AP!!
IT'S A MISTAKE!! DON'T LISTEN TO THIS TAPE. THE REAL ONE...
IT'S A TAPE OF ONE OF YOUR FIGHTS. NOW SHE'LL KNOW YOUR TRUE SELF!
I EVEN GOT DOLLED UP FOR YOU.
WHAT IS THAT TAPE, AI?
SO...TELL IT TO THE CHIEF!!
H-HUH
BEING ABLE TO TAKE ON A GROWN MAN IN AN ARGUMENT IS A BIG DEAL
I LIKE YOUR SPIRIT!!
HEH?
I'VE TAKEN A SHINE TO YOU, MISS HITOMI!

15 長い一日…の巻(完)

I WAS MISTAKEN IN THINKING YOU WERE A QUIET GIRL LIKE A CHINA DOLL
WE DID IT!!
SUC-CESS!!
AND THE FACT THAT YOU AREN'T SARCASTIC WHEN ARGUING SHOWS GOOD CHARACTER!
PER-FECT
SO...
SO YOU'LL APPROVE OF OUR MAR-RIAGE...
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S A MISUNDER-STANDING
DID I SAY THAT JUST BECAUSE I'M RELIEVED ABOUT HITOMI THAT SHE WOULD BE TAKING OVER THE SHOP?
HUH?
HEH...?
Y-YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!! WE'RE GETTING MARRIED AND STAYING IN TOKYO...
YOU ARE TAKING OVER THE SHOP, BUT WHETHER SHE COMES WITH YOU IS FAR FROM DECIDED!!
WE HAVEN'T HAD PROPER TEA IN A WHILE
HERE SHE IS...THE OLD BAG COMES OUT!!
DELI-CIOUS TEA...
HEY, RUI! HELP US OUT HERE!
YOU ARE NOT SUITED TO SUCH A STRONG-WILLED GIRL! BUT EITHER WAY YOU'RE COMING BACK TO KYUSHU TO TAKE OVER THE SHOP!!

そのうちに大ファンクラブをつくりたい

ほ、ほ、ほ、北条先生！

は、はじめまして。

あまりにも、スバラシイ先生に手紙を書くので、字がふるえちゃって……。

ところで、ぼくが『キャッツ♥アイ』のファンになったのは、親せきの家で、なにげなくテレビをみてからでした。

その時、ほかのマンガにはない〝心に残るもの〟があったのです。『キャッツ♥アイ』のように、みるものの心をひきつけるマンガは、ほかにはありません。ぼくはその後、『キャッツ♥アイ』のコミックスを買いつづけ、クラスでも有名な『キャッツ♥アイ』のファンになりました。

泪、瞳、愛の三人は〝どろぼう〟というかたがきをもちながらも、ふだんは底ぬけに明るく、楽しい人たちですね。それに大鳴署の面めんも、ひとりひとり個性を持っているし、コミックスを買うたびにワクワクします。

ぼくは、とくに課長さんが大好きなんですよ。

これからも、たのしいマンガをかいてください。

できたら〝北条先生と『キャッツ♥アイ』大ファンクラブ〟というのを、みんなでつくれたらいいなあ、と思っています。

今後も、期待してま——す!!

群馬県太田市（小学6年生　12歳）**青木秀憲**

夢は「キャッツ♥アイ」ファンクラブを作ること

ナゾがナゾを呼ぶ登場人物たち!!

泪、瞳、愛の3人こそあこがれの女性像だ!!

はじめてお便りします。

いつ読んでも、登場人物のキャラクターがいきいきとしていて、楽しみです。

はじめて瞳の水着姿をみたときには、思わずドキリとしてしまいました。それなのにムムム、俊夫の鈍感なのには、まいったナ。いまは、愛ちゃんが女らしくなったのでもう最高!!

本当は、泪さんに本格的な恋愛をさせてほしかったのです。

過去に恋した話でもよかったのですが…。泪さん、いったい年はいくつですか? 泪さんには、わからないことが多すぎますが、ミステリアスでいいという気もしています。

キャッツには、いろいろナゾがありますね。あのすばしっこい行動は、生まれつきなのか? それとも三人で訓練した成果なのか? などなど、空想しだすと、きりがなくひろがって、ぼく自身が原作者みたいになってしまいます。

『キャッツ♥アイ』ファンだけの集いをもって、いろんな人と語りあえたら、おもしろい話題がたくさんきけるのではないかナ。

北条先生、これからも、泪、瞳、愛の三人のような魅力的なキャラクターをもつマンガを、どしどしかいてください。

三重県鈴鹿市（大学3年生　20歳）小泉慎治

検印省略
著者承認済

■ジャンプ・コミックス

キャッツ♥アイ

12 長い一日…の巻

1985年4月15日　第1刷発行

著者　北条　司
©Tsukasa Hōjō　1985

発行人　堀内末男

発行所　株式会社 集英社
東京都千代田区一ツ橋2丁目5番10号
電話　東京（230）6171

印刷所　凸版印刷株式会社

乱丁・落丁本はおとりかえいたします。

ISBN4-08-851465-3 C0279